10 graduate from Da'ok Academy. PAGE 3
Torres to highlight NMI's gains in SOCA. PAGE 6

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXVII, Issue No. 54

www.saipantribune.com | FRIDAY MARCH 17, 2017 | www.facebook.com/saipantribune

75¢

'Over $22M needed for homestead infra'

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

The Department of Public Lands would need more than $22 million to fund infrastructure projects for its homestead program. Power, water, and sewer lines must first be installed for the planned homestead villages on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

See DPL on Page 4

Marianas Monument added to sanctuary list

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) announced yesterday significant progress on their joint effort to have the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument declared a National Marine Sanctuary. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration has now placed the Monument on the national inventory for possible sanctuary designation.

» Now eligible for sanctuary designation

Torres called the decision "an important step toward realizing the benefits promised to the people of the CNMI during the formation of the Marianas Trench National Monument.

"The federal government declared our unique marine resources a national treasure and we must

See MONUMENT on Page 4

NMTI presents job options to NAP recipients

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Northern Marianas Trades Institute held a job presentation yesterday to beneficiaries of the local food stamp program, Nutritional Assistance Program.

The occasion was intended to raise awareness that hotel establishments are looking for more local employees to add to their workforce.

NMTI registrar Norisa Camacho said that three of four hotels invited to make a presentation responded to

See NMTI on Page 4

More than 100 participated in the employment opportunity presentation held by the Northern Marianas Trades Institute yesterday in Lower Base.

ERWIN ENCINARES

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President Donald Trump is unveiling a $1.15 trillion federal budget.

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You can see the exact moment professor Robert Kelly knows his live interview has imploded.

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Local

Tribune to join *Virgo* cruise

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Saipan Tribune will join several media outlets from neighboring Guam in a six-day, five-night cruise aboard Star Cruises' *SuperStar Virg*o.

Organized by international hotel chain Resorts World Manila, media taking part in the *SuperStar Virg*o media familiarization cruise program also include KTKB, *Guamanian* magazine, KUAM, *Pacific Island Times*, and *The Post*.

The cruise will originate from the Philippine capital of Manila on March 19 and will proceed to Laoag, then to Kaohsiung, Taiwan, before sailing to Hong Kong, China. The ship returns to Manila on March 24.

SuperStar Virgo, which is also under Resorts World Manila, could accommodate up to 1,870 passengers and was designed specifically for the Asian cruise market.

The 882-foot, over 75,000-gross ton luxury cruise liner has 13 bars and restaurants. It also has an outdoor swimming pool, four hot tubs, a mega waterslide, golf driving range, mini golf, basketball court and jogging circuit, steam, sauna, Japanese plunge bath, locker rooms, jet current exercise pool, gymnasium, observation deck and sunbathing area.

Other amenities include an open-style karaoke lounge, show lounge with the entertainment and activities, hairdressing and beauty salon, foot massage, deck games, live music, dance lounge, cocktail, card and mahjong games, and duty free shops.

Star Cruises is currently conducting a promotion for the *SuperStar Virg*o with prices as low as $490 per passenger for the cruise-only promotional fare for stateroom accommodations, with discounts for every third or fourth passenger for reservations made for departure dates March 19, 24, and 29. A port charge of $165 would also be charged per passenger.

For additional information about the *SuperStar Virgo* cruise, contact Resorts World Manila through email at salesmanila@gentinghk.com.

Winds to pick up Saturday

Moderate to fresh wind today, Friday, will become fresh to strong by Saturday and combined seas of 3 to 4 feet will build to between 7 and 9 feet today. Meanwhile, a disturbance will bring scattered

See WINDS on Page 4

10 graduate from Da'ok Academy

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

Graduates of the fourth high school in the CNMI Public School System are overjoyed as their tassel went from right to left.

The 10 graduates of Da'ok Academy High School, which uses the alternative education program, or AEP, are ready to face a new set of challenges as they went through their commencement exercises yesterday.

Felisa Brel, AEP director, said the AEP program helps high school students secure their high school diploma. The AEP acts as a last resort for students who lack credits, are constantly absent, or on the verge of expulsion.

"Before their schools kick them out and they never get back into the system because of their age, attendance, and their academic performance, they send them to Da'ok Academy and here, we try to save them and work with them to improve those three areas," Brel said.

The 10 that graduated yesterday comprise the sixth batch to have graduated from the program.

Most students in this program graduate earlier because, according to Brel, "most students only need one to three classes to graduate."

Since being established back in 2011, Brel shared that Da'ok has had over 90 graduates.

"The largest number of graduates we've had [in a class] is 15," she said.

Da'ok Academy student Rolly C. Roppul told *Saipan Tribune* he got into the program "because of my delinquencies. … I was sent here to Da'ok."

Roppul did not resent his principal for her decision to send him to Da'ok Academy, saying he was happy and really liked studying in Da'ok.

"I gained a lot of values here. I learned a lot more in terms of education," he said.

Roppul said he is planning to pursue a criminal justice degree.

Board of education vice chair Janice A. Tenorio congratulated the students for pursuing their diploma and told them to "do it because [you] could make it all the way."

Education Commissioner Cynthia Deleon Guerrero said: "[The students] made the choice to return and pursue their diplomas. That is what's really important because many of our students, like all of us, have challenges in life that nobody really knows about. [These students] took it one step further to get that diploma and I am really proud of them for that."

Besides Da'ok Academy, the other high schools in the CNMI are Saipan Southern, Kagman High, and Marianas High.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Seven of ten graduates for Da'ok Academy High School class of 2017 posing with Public School System Alternative Education Program director Felisa Brel (center). From left to right: Saipan Southern High School's Sonia Isaac and Junie Pangelinan, Kagman High School's Jerica Sekool and Rolly Roppul, and Marianas High School's Justin Paul Blas, Isabel Ilo, and Daimeionne Greer.

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NMI's Medicaid program model for nation

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres said the CNMI's Medicaid Program is a model for the nation where funding is given directly to the people based on the Commonwealth's unique needs and not mandated by the federal government.

The issue on healthcare is a hot button topic since the beginning of the Trump administration. GOP congressional leaders had vowed to repeal and replace the current Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, more commonly known as Obamacare, which was signed by then President Barack Obama in 2010.

Territories like the CNMI have been left out in the insurance provisions of Obamacare and are not fully covered under the contents of the ACA.

American Samoa, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands are the other territories of the United States, while the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico is an unincorporated territory that is directly controlled and governed by the federal government.

Torres said he wrote a letter to Congress, addressed to Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy, where he made recommendations to the Republican lawmaker from California's 23rd district on potential reforms to the Medicaid program. His recommendations could be a basis for Obamacare's future reforms.

He believes the congressional leadership would build a better system that would work for all U.S. citizens, even those individuals in the territories in need of affordable and quality healthcare.

"As the process continues in Congress toward the potential passage of this legislation, I intend to work alongside the governors of the U.S. territories and commonwealths to develop a unified voice to Congress on our healthcare needs," Torres told *Saipan Tribune*.

He said Medicaid had been a big help to low-income individuals enrolled in the program, most especially patients who need immediate healthcare, and also to medical providers in the CNMI.

"The Medicaid program currently operates under what is essentially a block grant. The CNMI must adhere to a fiscal year limitation of total payment, which is set statutorily under the Social Security Act's Section 1108," Torres said.

"Any expenses beyond the federal funding cap must be picked up entirely by local funds. Additionally, the CNMI Medicaid program must adhere to a federal medical assistance percentage."

The CNMI's FMAP is currently set at 55 percent, among the lowest in the nation despite the CNMI's impoverished population. The islands' population enrolled in Medicaid and the Child Health Insurance Program is approximately at 35 percent in 2015.

Recent data show 46 percent of the CNMI's population is without of any type of health insurance coverage while 51 percent live on income that is below the federal poverty line, based on the records of the U.S. Census Bureau.

Torres said the CNMI's Medicaid program has zero rates of fraud, theft, and abuse. "[This is] due to the waiver flexibility statutorily built into the program's operation."

He said he supports what House Speaker Paul Ryan said about the islands' need for improved healthcare: "Governors and state legislatures are closer to patients in their states and know better than Washington bureaucrats where there are unmet needs and opportunities to cut down on waste, fraud, and abuse."

Torres said he believes the CNMI could become a model for state-led health care reforms. "[This is] due to our small and close-knit healthcare industry and dedicated leadership, with a greater percentage of individuals and families living beneath the poverty line."

"Limited resources are exacerbated further by low FMAP percentage of 55 percent and the statutory annual cap of federal Medicaid dollars."

BECQ: No recovery for NMI corals

The summer of 2016 showed a die off in corals once again in the Saipan lagoon and there has been no recovery in combatting coral bleaching as of now, according to marine science technical advisor Lyza Johnston.

In 2013 and 2014 there was mass coral bleaching and a major die off in the corals due to thermal stress. The worst of the coral bleaching was found mostly in the Northern Islands and in the southern part of the Saipan lagoon, Johnston told *Saipan Tribune*. The Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality observed this massive die off and have been trying to combat it since. For a while there was recovery and there was a growth in corals in those reefs.

Johnston said that a die off started again last summer 2016. Although the corals grew at a good pace since 2014, last summer they found that the coral bleaching has again started to take place in the western part of the Saipan lagoon.

When asked about the steps taken to reduce the die off in the corals in our lagoon, Johnston said, "It's hard to deal with ocean warming on a local scale, but we are taking steps in keeping the reef as healthy as possible by reducing land based sources of pollution and unsustainable fishing".

As of right now, the BECQ has not seen recovery for the coral bleaching that is once again taking place in the Saipan lagoon. BECQ will be monitoring the progress of the coral bleaching and said that they will hopefully have a full report by this year on June at the earliest.

Johnston said that so far the bleaching has only been occurring in the western side of Saipan lagoon. They have yet to venture to the Northern Islands to see if there is bleaching occurring there as well. This will all be included in the report that BECQ will be issuing sometime this year. ***(Kimberly A. Bautista)***

DPL

From Page 1

Public Lands Secretary Marianne Teregeyo said the amount is based on cost estimates they obtained from the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. to install power, water, and sewer services.

The cost breakdown is stated in the letter she sent last year to leaders of the legislative delegations of Saipan and Northern Islands, Tinian and Aguiguan, and Rota.

The Koblerville Subdivision in As Gono and in I Deni on Saipan, West San Jose Subdivision and Kanadan Magpu Village Homestead on Tinian, and the Finafa Homestead Subdivision in Rota are the areas that DPL wants to develop.

"I wrote the Legislature last year, the chair[man] of each delegation, asking for funding. The quotations came from CUC and we have the amount sent to the Legislature," said Teregeyo.

CUC's cost estimates for Saipan is $7,702,113.87 ($1,093,611.27 for power, and $6,608,502.60 for water and sewer); Tinian's West San Jose needs $923,209.49 for power and $4,149,246 for water, for a total of $5,072,455.49.

Katnadan Magpu's installation for power and water would cost $759,757.48 and $3,682,000, respectively.

Tinian had the highest amount needed among the three islands, tallying $9,514,212.97.

Rota's Finafa Homestead Subdivision's cost estimates are $1,426,094.81 for power, $4,588,000 for water, and $6,014,094.81 for sewer.

DPL would provide additional estimates for the Dugi Homestead Subdivision once it is completed.

Teregeyo said they could start with the installation of three basic services—power, water, and sewer—once funding is available. Once CUC is done with these projects, they could finally offer the lots in these areas for the homestead lottery program.

"We plan to have the As Gono and I Deni homestead on Saipan to move forward, along with the other homestead sites reserved. The sewer line in As Gono is already connected, but we need to have water and power lines too," said Teregeyo.

"The key here is to have infrastructure in place before we offer the lots for homestead lottery."

She said DPL is constitutionally prohibited from using the funds they collect from land leases for infrastructure developments.

"DPL is constitutionally prohibited to use funds from land leases to pay for infrastructure. The [Marianas Public Lands Trust] challenged that in court."

"The public perception is we make all the money. Right now, we're going to make the request again to the Legislature since it is already budget season. We are also doing the same revocation on Rota and Tinian."

NMTI

From Page 1

the invitation: Imperial Pacific Resort, Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan, and Kensington Hotel.

"The presentation was focused on opportunities in the hospitality industry," said Camacho.

Camacho said that more than 100 participants, most of them residents who are being assisted by the Nutritional Assistance Program, registered for the employment presentation.

"We have a big range of NAP recipients here today and we are encouraging our NAP recipients to apply for a class at NMTI. After the course, we place them in an on-the-job training, or OJT, so IPI, Kensington and Fiesta are possible hotels that could be applied to for OJT," she said.

Camacho said that many hotels are interested in hiring local employees. The presentation was a good way of bringing awareness to the community that "a lot of [hotels] out there are looking for employment."

Josephine Mesta, NMTI director of student development and Hyatt Regency Saipan human resource manager, said that hotels want to conduct employment opportunity presentations at NMTI because NMTI has classes that teach hotel and hospitality related skills.

"The [hotels] want to utilize our students. We are constantly offering classes all year long as open enrollment, so they know that we always have students," said Mesta.

NMTI is set to open its doors for the new semester on March 20 for the hospitality course and on March 28 for the culinary arts course.

For this semester, NMTI culinary arts enrollees number 30 students; the hotel and hospitality course has 41 students enrolled.

Since NMTI opened, it claims to have an 88.8 percent job placement rate.

For more information on enrolling, contact NMTI at 235-6684 or 323-6684.

MONUMENT

From Page 1

pursue avenues for federal resources to ensure adequate conservation for future generations and the promised benefits for our people," the governor added. "I thank Congressman Sablan for his collaboration on this effort and look forward to continuing to work alongside him to ensure that promises are fulfilled and our people realize tangible benefits from any future designation."

Sablan said, "NOAA's decision to list the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument as an area that can be considered for sanctuary status is a significant step toward the goal the governor and I articulated in our joint request to NOAA last year.

"I want to thank the governor for his willingness to work together in this way to realize the economic, environmental, and cultural potential of the Marianas Monument," said Sablan.

"And I congratulate all of the other leaders and activists in our community for the success of their efforts to have the Monument placed on the sanctuary inventory by NOAA."

Torres and Sablan began their effort with a joint letter to President Obama in September 2016, requesting initiation of the multi-year process to consider sanctuary designation for the Monument.

"Overlaying a Sanctuary designation to include the marine areas of the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument would advance the goals of both the National Marine Sanctuary Act and the original objectives of the Monument proclamation," they wrote. "It would also support the conservation values, practices, and aspirations of the people of the Marianas and our nation."

This joint, bipartisan approach by the Marianas leaders helped spur broad community support for the idea of sanctuary designation. In November 2016, Friends of the Marianas Trench, led by Ignacio Cabrera, filed a petition with NOAA nominating the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument as a National Marine Sanctuary. The nomination package included letters, resolutions, and signatures of support from local legislators, mayors and 1,500 residents of the Northern Mariana Islands and Guam.

Placement on the NOAA inventory means that the agency has determined that the nomination successfully met numerous criteria, including ecological, historical, cultural and archaeological significance; economic uses; need for conservation and management of threatened resources; and broad-based community support.

Now that the nomination has been placed on the inventory, NOAA may consider it in the future for designation as a National Marine Sanctuary. Sanctuary designation is a lengthy process that is highly public and participatory. For more information on the sanctuary designation process go to www.nominate.noaa.gov.

Torres and Sablan have agreed to continue working together and to urge NOAA and the new Trump administration to keep the process of adding sanctuary status to the existing Marianas Trench Marine National Monument. ***(PR)***

WINDS

From Page 2

showers and isolated thunderstorms to the Marianas today, Friday.

A high surf advisory is in effect from 6am Friday to 6am Sunday.

Hazardous surf of 9 to 11 feet is expected on north facing reefs Friday and Friday night. Surf will remain hazardous at 7 to 9 feet Saturday, then fall below hazardous levels on Sunday.

The public is being advised avoid venturing out to exposed reef lines and beaches, especially along north facing shores, as rip currents will be life threatening. ***(EOC)***

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Torres to highlight NMI's gains

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres will deliver his State of the Commonwealth Address on March 31, and he intends to enumerate the achievements and gains of his administration as well as their vision for the CNMI's future generations.

The 20th CNMI Legislature will hold its first joint session since the late governor Eloy S. Inos' SoCA on June 30, 2014, more than a year since assuming the top post in the CNMI.

The Legislature just transmitted to Torres Senate Joint Legislature 20-2 to call for a joint session to receive his SoCA.

Torres' SoCA will be held on March 31 at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe at 10am.

Torres would also use the event to submit the government's proposed budget for fiscal year 2018 to the Legislature, one day ahead of the April 1 deadline.

Torres was Inos' lieutenant governor and became governor after the latter's untimely death in December 2015.

Inos became CNMI governor after then-governor Benigno R. Fitial resigned after being impeached. The Casino License Agreement between the CNMI government and Imperial Pacific International was signed during Inos' term as governor in 2014.

IPI is in the process of finishing its construction of a multi-million dollar hotel casino resort in Garapan with the money generated from the annual license fees and other taxes collected.

The new gaming industry pumped in the needed funds to the CNMI's coffers, allowing the government to fund its departments and other programs as well as settling some of its financial obligations with the Retirement Fund, bonuses for retirees and their beneficiaries, salary adjustment and increases for law enforcement officers and all government employees, and longstanding obligations of the central government, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., and CNMI Public School System to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

"As we look ahead to the prospects of the year, we have an opportunity to further advance the goals and interests of the Commonwealth. We all share in the spirit of presenting solutions that address the critical issues affecting our people," Torres said in an earlier statement.

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Rota
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Max number of players reached for golf tourney

The maximum number of players that can register for Saturday's NMC Foundation Golf Tournament has been reached.

Those who have not registered to play, but would like to be placed on a player wait list, can contact 237-6833.

The tournament will take place at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort's east course tomorrow, Saturday, March 18, 2017. Show time is at 6am and the shotgun start is at 7am.

Hole-in-one prizes include a 2017 Toyota Tacoma from Atkins Kroll Saipan, a 2017 Mazda6i Sport from Triple J Motors, roundtrip tickets to the U.S. from Delta Air Lines, and $5,000 each from Marianas Insurance, McDonald's, and Pacifica Insurance Underwriters. The tournament will also feature many other items as raffle prizes, including smartphones from IT&E and Docomo Pacific, hotel stays from several local hotels, meal gift certificates, and much more. Beverage sponsors include MarPac, Saipan Brewing Co., and Pacific Trading Co.

"We are extremely grateful for the strong show of support by the many sponsors who are helping the NMC Foundation by donating in-kind or cash prizes," said Northern Marianas College president Dr. Carmen Fernandez. "We are also thankful for all the golf players who will be joining us on the golf course this weekend."

The tournament will also feature cash prizes for the top three winners of each flight: the first place winner will receive $500, second place winner will receive $300, and the players placing third in each category will receive $200. There are six flight categories: Championship, A, B, C, Ladies, and Seniors.

The NMC Foundation is composed of individuals who are dedicated and committed to raising funds for the college's programs and services that ultimately benefit students. The tournament is the foundation's signature event. ***(NMC)***

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Dandan Middle School students pose after the recently concluded four-day regional competition of the National Junior Speech and Debate Association.

Dandan School tops NJSD regionals

Dandan Middle School congratulates six of its students after they bagged four first-place titles out of the 10 English-event competition, dominating the recently concluded four-day regional competition of the National Junior Speech and Debate Association.

Three of DMS' students—Jonathan Wolf, Tioni Reyes, and Rio Ayu Shadow—will be traveling to Birmingham, Alabama this June 2017, together with other student representatives, to compete in the NJSDA National Tournament.

First place honors went to Reyes in impromptu speaking and Wolf in humorous interpretation, declamation, and prose interpretation.

Second place ribbons went to Juliet Inocencio in dramatic interpretation. Fourth place went to Holly Liban in impromptu speaking and Shadow in declamation.

Reyes was fifth in poetry interpretation

Joseph Zhang was in top 8 for both storytelling and poetry interpretation.

DMS principal Lynn Mendiola said:

"The teachers, staff and community of Dandan Middle School are extremely proud and impressed with the dedication, effort and commitment that our students have successfully achieved during the NJSDA regional competition. Knowing that our students have dominated the competition by winning four first-place titles is outstanding! We applaud you all! Congratulations to all our students and big thanks to our hardworking coaches Kristine Falig and Kristine Wolf. We are sure you will all do very well in the mainland competition!" ***(PR)***

Mobile consular outreach

Starting this Sunday, the Philippine Consulate General in Agana, Guam, in coordination with Philippine consul to the CNMI, Glicero Arago, will be offering mobile consular services through a mobile consular outreach program.

The outreach program will be from March 19 to March 22 and will be held at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

All e-passport applicants are required to personally appear to the venue within the date and time of their schedule. The consul will be strictly implementing "no show" applicants, resulting in cancellation.

The list of applicants can be found on the Philippine consulate general page. For more information and for confirmation, call Mel Santos at 670-233-6293. Proper attire is a must (i.e. collared shirt). ***(Kimberly A. Bautista)***

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William S. Reyes students pose with their dictionaries alongside Rotarians Wendell Posadas and Marylou Malasarte at the dictionary distribution yesterday morning.
KIMBERLY BAUTISTA

130 dictionaries donated to WSR

The Rotary Club of Saipan distributed 130 dictionaries to third graders of William S. Reyes School yesterday morning.

The organization's vocational committee director, Wendell Posadas, and Rotarian Marylou Malasarte led the dictionary turnover.

For the last 10 years, the Rotary Club of Saipan has been buying dictionaries that they hand out to all third graders on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

"We gave away about 800 dictionaries last year," said Posadas.

The Rotary Club of Saipan hopes to give away the same number or more dictionaries this year. The group gives away dictionaries to both private and public elementary schools.

The club chooses to donate dictionaries to third graders because "this is the age that they start reading and they start learning," Posadas told *Saipan Tribune*.

The money used to buy the dictionaries come from the Rotary Club's annual Las Vegas Night, which is the socio-civic organization's signature fundraiser.

Money raised from Las Vegas Night don't only fund the purchase of dictionaries, but it also funds the Rotary Club's other programs such as donating to students who leave for off-island competitions, its Rock to Read program, and all sports events that the Rotary Club sponsors.

WSR is the second school to receive a donation of dictionaries. The Rotary Club will soon announce the distribution dates for the rest of CNMI schools. ***(Kimberly A. Bautista)***

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2017 Nissan Rogue S 2WD retail price $27,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 5.4% APR for 72 monthly payments of $364.86 or $168.40 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment $26,269.92.

R.I.S.E. WOMEN IN HISTORY

Maisie Tenorio, late Dolores Ichihara Marciano

Two women will be recognized for their contributions over the years at today's R.I.S.E. Women in History Awards Ceremony, which is organized by Imperial Pacific International's Corporate Social Responsibility as part of the CNMI's Women's Month celebration.

Maisie Tenorio is this year's Imperial Pacific's R.I.S.E. Women in History honoree for public service and the late Dolores Ichihara Marciano will be hailed for her tremendous contribution to cultural promotion and preservation.

Tenorio, the late Marciano, educator Paulette Tomokane-Sablan, healthcare advocate Margarita Torres-Aldan and the late pioneering businesswoman Escolastica Cabrera are the five recipients of the pioneering R.I.S.E. Women in History honors that will also unveiled today at a 10:30am at the Pacific Islands Club.

R.I.S.E. Women is defined as Respected, Inspired, Strengthened, and Empowered Women.

Public Service award

Tenorio, who is being recognized for her contributions and unbending stance against domestic and sexual violence, tells of her journey in the field of public service: "To me, public service is all about community service. Everyone is involved in public and community service if they work to create a better Commonwealth for everyone."

"Whether you work for a private company, the government or a non-profit organization, working toward the common good is everyone›s responsibility," she added.

Tenorio's first venture in public service was in high school as part of the Saipan Youth Council, the group that advocated for the creation of the CNMI Youth Congress. She has also signed up several other groups promoting youth issues.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Maisie Tenorio is this year's Imperial Pacific's R.I.S.E. Women in History honoree for public service.

While in college, she expanded her focus toward working with children, volunteering as a mentor in a program that served youth with disabilities, among others.

When she returned home to Saipan as a college graduate, she volunteered in various community activities including at the House of Manhoben, which was then ran by Karidat. She was also part of a group that worked to create the CNMI Youth Alliance, a non-profit organization and served on the board of the Micronesian Youth Services Network.

In 2005, Tenorio was invited to attend a meeting with a group that was committed to ending domestic violence and sexual assault. That was the start of Tenorio's lifelong commitment to the anti-violence movement.

"Effective public service work means to be passionate about what you do and to do it to the best of your ability, whether you are a counselor, police officer, wholesaler, baker, wait staff, caregiver or mason," Tenorio noted.

She believes that every single person has the power to impact

See MAISIE on Next Page

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality
Division of Coastal Resources Management
P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 664-8300; Fax: (670) 664-8315
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PUBLIC NOTICE

Payment Procedures for DCRM Permit Fees

CNMI Administrative Code §15-10-205(f) requires all Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) permit applications to be accompanied by a non-refundable DCRM permit application fee in accordance with the fee schedule set. All payments are to be remitted to the CNMI Treasurer.

Effective March 20, 2017, all DCRM permit applicants are required to obtain a payment voucher from DCRM before remitting payment for any and all application fees to the CNMI Treasurer. All payments made to the CNMI Treasurer must be accompanied by a DCRM payment voucher. DCRM will require all receipts of transactions to be accompanied by a payment voucher when submitting any and all applications.

/s/Frances A. Castro
Director
Division of Coastal Resources Management

MAISIE

From Page 10

others around them and effect change in the world. It is like the concept of paying it forward. "Kindness, hope and courage are contagious. If everyone focused on passing it on, we›d have one amazing community."

On behalf of her team, she shares some words of wisdom to women everywhere: "At the Coalition, our message to women and girls has always been «You are enough. You matter. You are valued and you deserve respect.»

"It is quite an honor that there are members of our community who value the work of the Coalition. While we will continue to passionately serve the CNMI without accolades and recognition, it feels good to know that our work to create a violence-free CNMI is recognized," she added.

Tenorio is executive director of the Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence.

Arts and Culture award

The late Dolores Ichihara Marciano is the recipient of R.I.S.E. Women in Arts and Culture honor for the promotion and preservation of the local culture through education and performing arts.

Marciano is credited for promoting both the Chamorro and Refaluwasch cultures through her teachings and work at the then-Department of Education, Chamorro Bilingual Program, CCD (Confraternity of Christian Doctrine) religious education and as a songwriter and choreographer for the sunset cruise dancers.

Upon graduating from Hopwood Intermediate School in 9th grade, she went into teaching. She attended the San Jose State University and University of Guam before moving to Hawaii to attend and receive her bachelor's dgree in Elementary Education from the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

Her children recalled their upbringing with their "Mom Ling" and how they consider her as their "superwoman." They saw the "strength of a woman" in their mother.

"My mom got me interested in education," said daughter Luella. "My mother wrote short stories in Chamorro and translated fairy tales like Snow White, Cinderella, Rapunzel, and oral history tales such as the Sleeping Lady, which she heard from my paternal grandfather, David Marciano."

The late Dolores Marciano also wrote few books of her own. Her daughter recalls how her mother, after obtaining her bachelor's degree, moved back to Saipan to teach. She was a Chamorro bilingual curriculum writer until she became the district's director of the program.

After getting off work at the then-Department of Education, she would also teach class at the Northern Marianas College. After her NMC class, she would go home and start her dance lessons for children ages 5 and up.

Son Gordon Marciano has fond memories of his mother.

"She had to make so many sacrifices while she was raising us. My father was in Guam working and she was working and going to school at the same time so, to make things easier, my siblings and I split the house chores," Gordon Marciano remembers.

One unforgettable moment was when his mother brought them to the zoo and spoke to them in the Chamorro language while they replied in the Carolinian language.

"Sundays it was a must for us to go to church. This is where we would meet other Chamorros and Carolinians. She always reminded us about never forgetting who we are and that even though we were in Hawaii, we are not Americans but Chamorros and Carolinians from the CNMI, added Gordon Marciano.

In Hawaii, Dolores Marciano's children grew up around bilingual-speaking women that included the late education commissioner Dr. Rita Hocog Inos, Carmen Taimanao, and Dr. Ebert-Santos.

"If she was still around today, the message she would express to her fellow educators would be to strive and to continue. Start early and do not stop. Do not lose the bilingual program."

Another daughter, Leilani, express her profound appreciation for honoring their late mother.

"We want to say thank you to all the people who want to honor my mother. Thank you for perpetuating my mother's songs and dances. It really means a lot to us and I'm sure if she was here, she would be saying the same thing." ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The late Dolores Ichihara Marciano will be hailed for her tremendous contribution to cultural promotion and preservation.

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Bodybuilding contest on March 25

The 3rd Annual Marianas Muscle Bodybuilding & Physique Contest will be held on Saturday, March 25, 2017, starting at 3m at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe. Admission is $10 per person. There will be an entry fee of $15 per competitor.

For more information about contest entry and rules, contact John Davis at 789-9211 or johnhdavisjr@gmail.com. For tickets, contract Jocelyn Itibus at 287-1232 or jocelynitibus@gmail.com; Enrico Valdez at 783-1320 or enrico_valdez@yahoo.com; Karen Davis at 789-7994 or karendavis0812@gmail.com; Jayda Rayphand at 783-7994 or jaydarayphand@gmail.com; or Jeanne Rayphand at 287-9807 or email jeanneesq@yahoo.com. ***(PR)***

CCA board to meet on March 21

The Commonwealth Cancer Association's board of directors will be holding its regular meeting on March 21, 2017 at 3pm at the CCA conference room. Agenda includes reports from the president, and program updates. All board meetings are open to the public. For more information, contact the CCA at 682-0050 or email ccamarianas@gmail.com. ***(CCA)***

NMTI's culinary arts class to begin

The Northern Marianas Trades Institute's 2017 spring culinary arts class will kick off on March 21, 2017, from 4pm to 8pm. Courses are twice weekly (Tuesdays and Wednesdays for four months). There is also a mandatory orientation on March 14, 2017, at 4pm at NMTI's Lower Base campus. NMTI's registration process is year-round. For more information regarding this course or other courses, contact Norisa SN Camacho, registrar, at (670) 235-6684 or email nmti@pticom.com. ***(NMTI)***

Enrolment schedule at SVES

San Vicente Elementary School would like to inform its school zone parents/guardians that School Year 2017-2018 registration for new students is scheduled to begin on June 15, 2017 for first grade to fifth grade, from 9am through 3pm in the school main office. To ensure your child is placed on the roster, we encourage parents/guardians to register during the above date and times. This will assist the school with proper placement for the upcoming school year.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at tel. # 664-3981 through 84. ***(PR)***

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

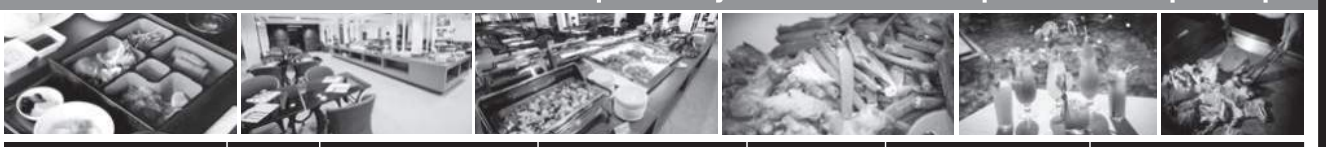
Happy Birthday to my *nina*/auntie Priscilla M. Iakopo! Enjoy your special day. With lots of love from Tatum Mamet and Logan Luke.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

GRAND VRIO RESORT SAIPAN

Welcome to enjoy fantastic buffet at our **"Tropicana Restaurant"** (2nd floor of Taga Tower)! Performance is available on Sunday Brunch. All you can eat and drink! Champagne, beers.

*** Breakfast: 7:00am-10:00am * Lunch: 11:30am-2:00pm *Sunday Brunch: 11:00am-2:00pm *Dinner: 5:30pm-9:00pm**



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Restaurant Tropicana			3/1	3/2	3/3 **Buffet Lunch $14** *Seafood & Sushi Night* *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*	3/4 *Seafood & Sushi Night* *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*
3/5 **Sunday Brunch $22** *Seafood & Sushi Night* *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*	3/6	3/7 *Seafood & Sushi Night* *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*	3/8 **Buffet Lunch $14** *Seafood & Sushi Night* *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*	3/9	3/10 **Buffet Lunch $14** *Seafood & Sushi Night* *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*	3/11 *Seafood & Sushi Night* *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*
3/12 **Sunday Brunch $22** *Seafood & Sushi Night* *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*	3/13	3/14 *Seafood & Sushi Night* *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*	3/15 **Buffet Lunch $14** *Seafood & Sushi Night* *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*	3/16	3/17 **Buffet Lunch $14** *Seafood & Sushi Night* *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*	3/18 *Seafood & Sushi Night* *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*
3/19 **Sunday Brunch $22** *Seafood & Sushi Night* *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*	3/20	3/21 *Seafood & Sushi Night* *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*	3/22 **Buffet Lunch $14** *Seafood & Sushi Night* *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*	3/23	3/24 **Buffet Lunch $14** *Seafood & Sushi Night* *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*	3/25 *Seafood & Sushi Night* *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*
3/26 **Sunday Brunch $22** *Seafood & Sushi Night* *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*	3/27	3/28 *Seafood & Sushi Night* *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*	3/29 **Buffet Lunch $14** *Seafood & Sushi Night* *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*	3/30	3/31 **Buffet Lunch $14** *Seafood & Sushi Night* *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*	4/1 *Seafood & Sushi Night* *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*

"Dolphin Restaurant" *(10th floor of Crystal Tower in Grandvrio Resort Saipan)*

has reopened as A-La-Carte restaurant. Welcome to enjoy fast & nice Lunch Menu ($8~) and authentic Japanese Shabu Shabu or Sukiyaki for your dinner ($35). "Spectacular Ocean view and Sunset!" Starting from Nov. 07, 2016, our Dolphin restaurant brings out "Daily Chef's Special Lunch" from Mon. to Fri.; **EVERYTHING IS DIFFERENT!**$12 only, 15 servings per day; "First In First Out!" Opening time: Everyday Lunch: 11:30am-2:00pm Last Order: 1:30pm / Dinner 5:30pm-9:00pm Last Order : 8:30pm

"Starlight BBQ" Dinner Buffet Location:

Poolside Price: Reg. AD $39 CH: $19
(Local: AD $35/ CH $17)
Business hrs: 6:00pm-9:00pm
Menu: " All you can eat & drink" - beers, red & white wine, soft drinks, oolong tea and juices.

AIRI COFFEE LOUNGE

Lounge Business hrs: 10:00am-6:00pm

Come and taste delicious curry & sandwich set ($7.00 only), cake, café latte, organic smoothies… with unique ocean view. Pizza Set ($10.00) Available Now!

Pool Side Bar

Business Hrs: 1pm - 10pm
Last Order: 9:30pm
"Happy Hours" 4pm-7pm
20% discount available for all drinks including cocktails.

For reservation or inquiry, please call: 670-237-2527 or E-mail: food.beverage@grandvrio-saipan.com

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Newly inducted members of Mount Carmel School's Immaculate Conception chapter of the National Junior Honor Society gather for a photo with Bishop Ryan Jimenez and school officials.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

53 students inducted into MCS honor societies

This past week, 53 students were inducted into Mount Carmel School's Immaculate Conception Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society and Fr. Arnold Bendowski Chapter of the National Elementary Honor Society.

Bishop Ryan Jimenez opened the induction ceremony with a prayer and a blessing of the candles, representing the values of the honor societies.

School president Galvin Deleon Guerrero challenged he students, whether inducted or not, to see themselves as more than who they are now and all they can be in the future.

Current honor society students explained the respective values of the honor societies. For the NJHS, those values are scholarship, service, leadership, character, and citizenship. As for the NEHS, its values are scholarship, responsibility, leadership, and service.

Students who have a 3.0 grade-point average are invited to apply for membership.

Inductees were identified by the ceremonious "tapping" ritual, in which current honor society members go around tapping inductees on their shoulders and inviting them to the main staging area to take their oaths, receive their membership insignia, and sign into the membership ledger.

Inductees into the Immaculate Conception Chapter of the NJHS are:

- Francine Monique Albuen
- Keehara Nielsen Baldazo
- Kyla Monique Cabrera
- Moeisha Eleanor Cruz
- Kina Dela Cruz
- Raphael Christian Galang
- Lynzey Valencia Green
- Brissa Hunter
- Renee Kiser
- Hannah Lacap
- Mikee Mendoza
- William Kazuki Minami
- Brent Matthew Ortizo
- Manuel Pangelinan
- Mathew Adrian Sablan
- Vince Philip Salvador
- Yurihana Rosa Sasamoto
- Theresa Rose Schweiger
- Mariana Tenorio
- Kristan Rose Torres

Inductees into the Fr, Arnold Bendowski Chapter of the NEHS are:

- Margaret Cabrera
- Irie Kane Camacho
- Elialyn Q. Castro
- Kenneth Castro
- Davina Chae
- Jada Chang
- Nathaniel Clark
- Quimari L. Duenas
- Hong, Eun Kyu
- Claire Regina Kautz
- Angelo Lobo
- Audrein J. Mallari
- Laizza V. Mallari
- Nicole E. Mariano
- Jalen Nicholas
- Manuel Pamintuan
- Breana Y. Patawaran
- Chelsy Anne Reyes
- Aaliyah V. Sablan
- Kiana C. Sablan
- Dylan Santos
- Hitomi Rosa Sasamoto
- Crispin-Joseph Saures
- Maui Silva
- Ranier J. Solis
- Lyssa Rae Steele
- Aryana Carmen A. Taimanao
- Nevaeh Taisacan
- Malina Rose B. Tenorio
- Avah Marie Torres
- Ari James Toskas
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USCIS will accept H-1B petitions beginning April 3

WASHINGTON—U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services will begin accepting H-1B petitions subject to the fiscal year 2018 cap on April 3, 2017. All cap-subject H-1B petitions filed before April 3, 2017, for the FY 2018 cap will be rejected.

The H-1B program allows companies in the United States to temporarily employ foreign workers in occupations that require the application of a body of highly specialized knowledge and a bachelor's degree or higher in the specific specialty, or its equivalent. H-1B specialty occupations may include fields such as science, engineering and information technology.

Congress set a cap of 65,000 H-1B visas per fiscal year. An advanced degree exemption from the H-1B cap is available for 20,000 beneficiaries who have earned a U.S. master's degree or higher. The agency will monitor the number of petitions received and notify the public when the H-1B cap has been met.

USCIS recently announced a temporary suspension of premium processing for all H-1B petitions starting April 3 for up to six months. While H-1B premium processing is suspended, petitioners will not be able to file Form I-907, Request for Premium Processing Service, for a Form I-129, Petition for a Nonimmigrant Worker which requests the H-1B nonimmigrant classification. While premium processing is suspended any Form I-907 filed with an H-1B petition will be rejected. If the petitioner submits one combined check for both the Form I-907 and Form I-129 H-1B fees, both forms will be rejected.

H-1B petitioners must follow all statutory and regulatory requirements as they prepare petitions to avoid delays in processing and possible requests for evidence. The filing fee for Form I-129 has increased to $460, and petitioners no longer have 14 days to correct a dishonored payment. If any fee payments are not honored by the bank or financial institution, USCIS will reject the entire H-1B petition without the option for the petitioner to correct it.

Form M-735, Optional Checklist for Form I-129 H-1B Filings (PDF, 278 KB), provides detailed information on how to complete and submit an FY 2018 H-1B petition.

For more information on the H-1B nonimmigrant visa program and current Form I-129 processing times, visit the H-1B FY 2018 Cap Season Web page or call the National Customer Service Center at 800-375-5283 or 800-767-1833 (TDD for the hearing impaired). To subscribe to the H-1B Cap Season email updates go to the H1B FY 2018 Cap Season Web page.

For more information on USCIS and its programs, please visit uscis.gov or follow us on Twitter (@uscis), YouTube (/uscis, and Facebook(/uscis). ***(USCIS)***

Income tax forms for 2017 tax season available

The Department of Finance announced yesterday that the income tax forms for the 2017 tax season is available for pickup from the Division of Revenue and Taxation or can be downloaded at www.cnmidof.net.

The self-service booth has been activated for taxpayers filing form 1040-EZCM. There is a small fee of $7.

For most taxpayers, tax return file date is Monday, April 17 2017, rather than Saturday, April 15, 2017. Personal income tax return file due date is April 15, 2017 unless the date falls on a Saturday or Sunday, in which case the due date for Northern Marianas Territorial Income Tax returns gets pushed ahead to the next business day. The Division of Revenue and Taxation can be reached at 664-1000 or 664-1098. ***(PR)***

HOW TO TALK ABOUT
BULLYING?

Parents, school staff, and other caring adults have a role to play in preventing bullying.

YOU CAN:

- **Help kids understand bullying.** Talk about what bullying is and how to stand up to it safely. Tell kids bullying is unacceptable. Make sure kids know how to get help.
- **Keep the Lines of Communication Open.** Check in with kids often. Listen to them. Know their friends, ask about school, and understand their concerns.
- **Encourage kids to do what they love.** Special activities, interests, and hobbies can boost confidence, help kids make friends, and protect them from bullying behavior.
- **Model how to treat others with kindness and respect.**

"Visit Stopbullying.gov to learn how to be more than a bystander and what you can do to address bullying in your community."

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXVII, Issue No. 54

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

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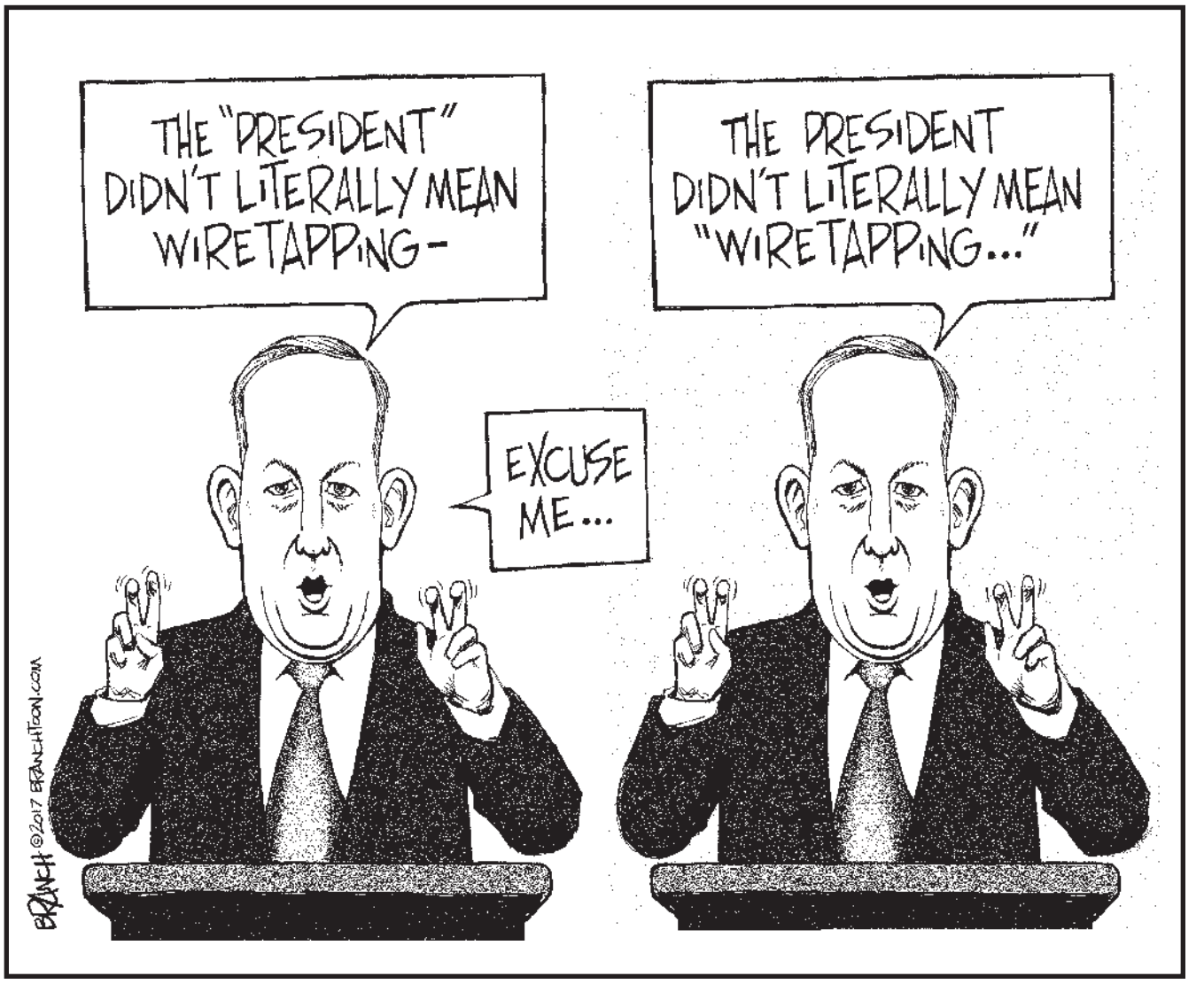
THE "PRESIDENT" DIDN'T LITERALLY MEAN WIRETAPPING-
EXCUSE ME...
THE PRESIDENT DIDN'T LITERALLY MEAN "WIRETAPPING..."
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EDITORIAL

Nigeria on edge: The African power has troubles on multiple fronts

Nigeria is in a mess; it is fair to say that the country that is Africa's largest economy, with a population, Africa's largest, of an estimated 190 million, is always in trouble, but the problems this time are considerably greater than normal in recent years.

The chaos caused in the northeast by the Islamist Boko Haram movement, it of the Chibok girls fame, is more under control than it has sometimes been in the past. At the same time, this state of affairs has been brought about by sometimes brutal Nigerian military action, including the burning of villages. The disruption caused by Boko Haram and the Nigerian military together has led to widespread famine in the region through unplanted crops. That's No. 1.

The second problem is continued unrest in Nigeria's oil-producing region in the southeast, in the Niger River delta, making the country's overall economic situation acute given its dependence on oil for legal and illegal revenue. This is not a new problem. Oil production has consistently created environmental problems for that region's fishermen and farmers, who resent the pollution and the fact that they continue to receive what they consider to be a disproportionately small portion of the oil money.

No. 3 is local, in a sense, but also national. Nigeria built a new capital in the 1980s at Abuja in the center of the country, succeeding Lagos, a port, whose population has exploded to an estimated 21 million. It built an airport at Abuja but severely neglected maintenance at it to the point that its runways are now unusable. The nearest, small airport is at Kaduna, a hundred miles away, and Abuja airport is expected to be closed for years of repairs.

The fourth problem is the health of President Muhammadu Buhari. He has just returned from two months of treatment in London, where he was basically incommunicado. He still looks frail. Vice President Yemi Osinbajo is Christian, from the south, and if Buhari, a Muslim from the north, were to step down or pass away, it would risk confounding Nigeria's rough rotation of the presidency between its Christians and Muslims, south and north. In the meantime, it appears that Buhari will not be in much of a position to lead the country in addressing its other problems.

Why should Americans care? Nigeria's size, the importance of its role in Africa _ including as a sometime peacekeeper in West African scraps _ and its relatively important trading relationship with the United States make it a useful American partner in a frequently troubled Africa. The United States sells Nigeria 9.3 percent of its imports and buys oil from it. Nigeria shouldn't need American aid, but the United States should stay close to it as it makes its way through its problems.

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Tales of the South Pacific: Mintaka

By ED STEPHENS
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at EdStephensJr.com. His column runs every Friday.

The outside world sometimes calls Saipan a "South Pacific" island. By contrast, you probably know that Saipan is actually 15 degrees north, not south, of the equator. I'm not picky enough to trifle over such things in general contexts, though, so when I hear that Saipan is in the South Pacific, I just politely nod and smile.

But I do have an observation to share from the actual South Pacific. We'll consider this topic a page from the adventurer's notebook. If you'd like to know the sorts of notions that might fill your head if you punt corporate life in the mainland in order to become a pilot in the South Pacific, this will provide one example. Is it esoteric stuff? Possibly. But, hey, why be normal?

For reasons of cosmic alignment, the wintertime constellation of Orion, the hunter, is a very juicy sight from Saipan. Right now it's in the southwestern sky in early evenings. The window for viewing will be closing as wintertime recedes into the past.

If you're an adventurer or an outdoorsy type, you might have a solid relationship with Orion. You may know of the giant red star Betelgeuse, which marks one of Orion's shoulders. You may know of the bright white star Rigel, which marks his foot on the side opposite of Betelgeuse. And you may know that one of Orion's most prominent features is the three-star line of his belt.

Been there, done that, right? OK. Let's head south now.

My first exposure to the South Pacific was when I took a job in Pago Pago. I flew a helicopter for a fishing boat. A typical voyage was anywhere from two to four months long. The chopper flying occurred in the daytime. This left nights free for looking at the southern skies from the boat.

I grew up with a solid grasp of the mid-latitude northern skies. The southern sky, however, left me totally befuddled. At a minimum, I wanted to be able to tell from the stars where south was and what my latitude was. This would give my mind some sort of traction in those mysterious skies.

So I started to piece together the southern sky just as thousands of other bored sailors have done over the centuries.

I wound up making a number of voyages in the South Pacific. As the months went by I noticed an old friend sliding into the picture.

It was Orion. Finally, a slice of home!

I wanted to learn to use Orion to maximum advantage and I finally managed to consult some charts.

The first thing I noticed is that one of the stars on his belt, Mintaka, happens to be sitting on the celestial equator. Mintaka is at the end of the belt on the Rigel side of Orion.

To restate this equator gig just to relish its cosmic coolness, Mintaka is 90 degrees from the north celestial pole. And it's also 90 degrees from the south celestial pole.

Here's another cool thing: Orion is standing straight up. His head is towards the celestial north and his feet are standing in the celestial south.

If you imagine where his backbone would be, or if you connect the faint star that marks his head (Meissa) with the middle star of his belt (Alnilam), you'll have a fairly decent celestial north-south line. Alternatively, you can consider that the "sword" that hangs from his belt is pretty much pointing toward celestial south.

The foregoing information is useful for getting a very rough idea of what's going on up there. The ultimate goal is to estimate where a celestial pole is, and other stars in the appropriate area can hopefully be found to hone the process. So Orion isn't a magic formula, but is, instead, just one source of information that can be useful in some cases. The rest is up to you.

I will, however, share a concept so folks know what all the fuss is about: Once you reckon a celestial pole, the other stuff (direction and latitude) is easy. If you drop an imaginary plumb-line from, say, the south celestial pole to the horizon, then you've found the earth's true south. If you estimate the angular elevation, in degrees, of the south celestial pole over the horizon, then you've estimated your latitude, in degrees, south of the horizon. The same concepts apply to the north celestial pole and its related goodies; just cut-and-paste the term "north" to replace the term "south" for the plumb-line and latitude gigs.

The only difference in practice is that the north celestial pole has a fairly bright star sitting on it (the North Star, also called Polaris), and the south celestial pole doesn't offer such a feature.

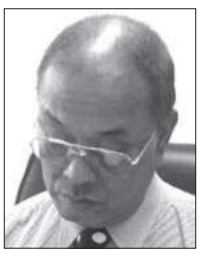
Anyway, that's one page from an adventurer's notebook.

Orion has proven to be a reliable ally. He can be your friend, too, and he's no stranger to Saipan.

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

At cliff's edge

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune



John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the* Saipan Tribune.

With the NMI financial posture dangerously clamped down by a huge deficit, we sit and ponder what other devastating hardship would emerge that would adversely affect family pocketbooks in the near-term.

When more than half of employees here earn poverty income level or below you know so-called leadership has failed royally in its fiduciary duty. This negligence doubles down, with more than 46 percent of our people without health insurance of some sort.

Definitely, one could only envision the parlous consequences of these familial setbacks NMI-wide. How would families fare if Trump slashes more entitlement programs that include food stamps and help for senior citizens? Would not this translate into more debilitating form of hardship for families here?

Sadly, irrelevant valedictory speeches about poverty here aren't going to help the multitude deal with the deepening mess. Moreover, the mercurial and negligent "solutions driven" team can no longer be in denial of reality of bad economic conditions that fan the fire of poverty NMI-wide.

These conditions place NMI families at the cliff's edge financially. But then it's deafening the lack of some thoughtful blueprint that lays out realistic answers to resolve the familial economic tsunami.

Though national Republican policy on the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare) has yet to emerge with clarity, it's an issue to follow through to completion. A change shifts financial responsibility to state and territorial governments.

Given the uncertainty of the NMI's financial posture, it behooves so-called leadership to exercise some real time agility doing the *mea culpa* with Trump. Otherwise, we'd have to line up for a sunset parade to American Memorial Park protesting impending cuts.

The federal government now pays for the cost of these and other programs. If push comes to shove, could the NMI navigate this obligation or "not yet, already?" Subjecting our people to vicious and mind numbing hardship isn't self-government, is it? Neither is bankruptcy!

CW Issue: The administration is using its quiet tentacles, pushing for 4,000 CW workers for Best Sunshine. The hospital management was told it's a semi-autonomous agency and must make do with what it has today. Really?

With 114 nurses subject to exclusion two years from now, is the inconsequential demeanor the attitude of this administration on an issue of dire urgency?

Land probe: The U.S. Department of Justice is reportedly investigating decisions by the Guahan Chamoru Land Trust limiting issuance of homestead land only to Chamoru descendants.

This story emerged after a federal court declared unconstitutional limiting voting on Guam's political status plebiscite strictly to Chamorus. Understood the conflicting narrative in the collision of culture versus rights of citizens.

But without stoking racism, one should draw an honest answer: who is the colonized people since 1898? Under pertinent international law, the Chamorus have rights to self-determination. The exercise in itself should effectively eliminate all non-indigenous in this case. This isn't so hard to understand, is it?

Indeed, the resurgence of culture steadily mounts and clashes with the military buildup in Guam. It fuels spirited discussion how the indigenous Chamorus should approach the two issues. It's your rights, therefore stand up for it!

I can understand and appreciate the limiting notion of Guam being small and therefore incapable of self-government. This view runs against the grain of the benefits of imperialism built over decades. To succumb to this viewpoint is to prolong neocolonialism. It need not be this way!

It's all a matter of self-definition in terms of your vision for you and posterity. In short, it's about the self. What do you want beyond what's before you today? You need not succumb to the whims of indigenous Chamorro who prefer pushing the agenda of neocolonialism for purposes of convenience and comfort.

Ooops! At a ribbon-cutting ceremony on the new vent system for CHC, Lt. Gov. Biktot Hokog asked the presenter if the new cooling unit would save the hospital millions. Obviously, the mercurial Hokog is incapable of separating people from issues or what's the greater question. Isn't it about how much has he pushed to sufficiently fund the local hospital? That he missed this point is a tale of his obvious lack of comprehension of the complexity of healthcare issues!

Reminds me of what Einstein once said, "Two things are infinite: the universe and human stupidity; and I'm not sure about the universe."

In error: I made the mistake of calling "VIP gambling rolling chip" income. It isn't! It's how much wagers rolled, gambling on tables and others at the BSI temporary facility. Sorry! An honest mistake!

Nonetheless, BSI should show its income forthwith so our beholden men of wisdom on the hill would start using their calculators to figure out how much tax it should charge. Macau charges 39 percent tax on income.

Furthermore, would Capital Hill work up the courage to translate tangible opportunities to meet the needs of our people? Or are you guys so beholden to your sugar daddy it's hard saying it's time to do things right by doing it right? Why is your voice so muted or inaudible?

The bubble: For those basking merrily with fat sugar daddies living up their Cadillac lifestyle, notice where you're standing. Is it the floor and is the floor the first floor? How far away is it from the ground? Does it have a strong scaffold or as crispy dangerous as dry bamboo reed?

In brief, the elected elite can't go on ignoring and neglecting issues that directly affect families here. It's food and health that require serious review. Are you anywhere near these issues or have you stuffed it dazed and unsure how to approach them?

LITERARY NOOK

Four-leaf clover sonnets

By JOSEPH B. 'PEPE BATBON' CONNOLLY
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Four-leaf clover sonnets about Ireland, St. Patrick's Day, March 17, and poetry by Joey Leahy Connolly.

A Sonnet for Saint Patrick's Day

green gewgaws start appearing in variety stores before Valentine's Day
green leprechaun t-shirts, shamrock ties, and hats sold by the score
plenty of green beer everywhere even a green river runs in Chicago today
New York's parade has Irish pipes, policemen, marching bands, and more
over in Erin folks used to get up and go to morning Mass in a local church
they would eat a simple meal of beef, potatoes, tea, and Irish soda bread
many Irish will leave the big green scene commercial machine in the lurch
while from underneath ladies wool scarves peeks hair of beautiful red
St. Patrick departed the Emerald Isle over fourteen hundred years ago
kidnapped in Scotland and brought as a slave to Erin when a young boy
after six years he escaped to return to Scotland in a boat he could row
he later returned to Ireland bringing Druids Irish Catholic guilt and joy
now Patrick is used as an excuse for people to drink booze like a fish
from green beer to Irish whiskey dear—they all wish they were Irish

Haiku Sonnet for Hibernia

peat brown liquid a four leaf shamrock Kelly on the green
peat brown liquid tempting tongue finished with work
peat brown liquid a pub down the block a pint for balance
peat brown liquid Guinness and poteen no reason to shirk
uilleann pipes and acapella ballads from Seamus Ennis
Chieftains great Irish music heard around the world
songs of history humor fighting dancing and love
over which the Orange White and Green flag unfurled
poetry is heard in every village street pub and church
poetry is heard in around above and beyond the noise
poetry is heard from the countryside lovely girls *wren boys
poetry is heard love lasts forever some left in the lurch
for centuries thousands of known and unknown greats
20th century James Joyce to Seamus Heaney & W.B. Yeats

** See Sligo Heritage about this ancient 'wren boys' custom still practiced today on St. Stephen's Day, the day after Christmas.*

The Old Sot and the Old Sod

—an Irish-American reverie
if I should pass out think but this of me
that there's a small corner of this old pub
that is forever Ireland and will always be
a place you can eat some decent pub grub
outside is Ireland the sot is aware he's back there
in his present drunken state tasting Irish cheese
more Irish fare washed down with a shot and a beer
a corned beef cabbage plate he'll have a pint or two
drink it right away a drop now of Tullamore Dew
no less takes him back his thoughts by Ireland given
his earphones sing with Irish harps and songs today
Laoise Kelly, Teada, Seamus Ennis, all sing and play
his heart is resting and at peace in an Irish heaven
who is he, why its me Joey Connolly, poetry driven

L & G Legit Wedded Be

one fine sunny day in the month of May
into city and village voting booth
voters turned out for a new wedding way
came the aged, the married, and the youth
results were about a 60 / 40 split
pro voters topped with more than half of it
knowing this new form of legal marriage
may not result in a baby carriage
from Dublin, Cork, Limerick to Galway
now some couples can make their wedding plan
since they legalized gay marriage today
when woman weds woman and man weds man
those critical of Ireland take note
people spoke with a democratic vote

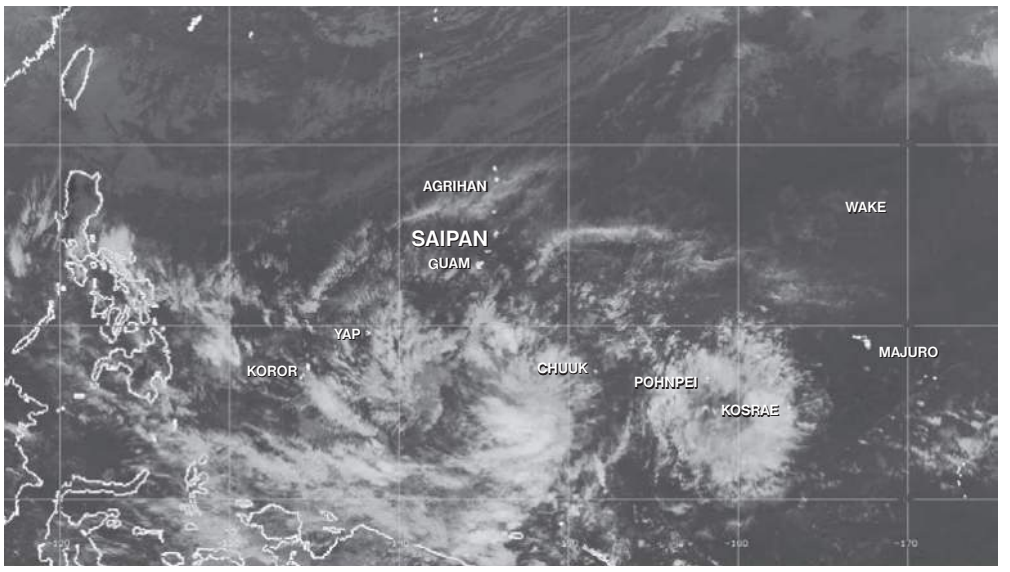
**Ireland legalizes gay marriage, a sonnet written on May 24, 2015.*

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy and breezy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 7:10 AM, TUESDAY, MARCH 15, 2017
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

The disturbance southwest of Yap will drift northwestward and interact with a shear line Friday through Saturday. These features will bring scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms to the area, lasting into the weekend. Rain chances will decrease after the weekend and become more isolated as the disturbance moves away, but the shear line remains in proximity. Both the GFS and ECMWF models agree on showers during the Friday/Saturday period though they disagree on amounts and location. However, they mainly agree on the potential for locally heavy rain the next 2-3 days.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Clear	83 | 78 °F
Palau	Overcast	88 | 76 °F
Yap	Rain	80 | 71 °F
Chuuk	Overcast	83 | 79 °F
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	82 | 79 °F
Kosrae	Partly Cloudy	82 | 79 °F
Majuro	Mostly Cloudy	81 | 71 °F

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Clear	72 | 58 °F
Beijing	Clear	60 | 39 °F
Hong Kong	Scattered Clouds	68 | 65 °F
Honolulu	Clear	84 | 68 °F
London	Mist	56 | 41 °F
Los Angeles	Clear	90 | 75 °F
Manila	Clear	90 | 75 °F
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	78 | 58 °F
Miami	Mostly Cloudy	71 | 56 °F
New York	Clear	35 | 24 °F
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	56 | 37 °F
Paris	Clear	65 | 43 °F
Pusan	Clear	61 | 36 °F
Rome	Clear	64 | 41 °F
Salem	Overcast	55 | 37 °F
San Francisco	Overcast	62 | 49 °F
Seoul	Clear	59 | 34 °F
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	62 | 37 °F
Washington, DC	Clear	42 | 37 °F

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
4:40 AM	LOW TIDE	0.69
10:16 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.78
5:10 PM	LOW TIDE	0.3
11:19 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.62

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:23 AM	6:27 PM
Saturday	6:22 AM	6:27 PM
Sunday	6:22 AM	6:27 PM
Monday	6:21 AM	6:27 PM
Tuesday	6:20 AM	6:27 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	9:25 AM	10:17 PM
Saturday	-	10:07 AM	11:06 PM
Sunday	-	10:50 AM	11:54 PM
Monday	-	11:35 AM	-
Tuesday	12:43 AM	12:22 PM	-

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SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Friday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $180. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MARCH 1, 2017

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL297	4:15pm	7:05pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

TW308	2:35am	6:25am	Daily
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:35am	8:30am	Daily
LJ652	3:10pm	7:05pm	Daily
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily
ZE582	4:25pm	8:35pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	2:55am	6:10am	1, 7
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7
7C3451	3:15am	6:30am	4, 5

SAIPAN-JEJU (CJU)

7C3433	3:55am	7:30am	3, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	5:20am	8:00am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:50am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:30am	7:50am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:10am	10:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	10:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	9:00am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:30am	Daily via GUM
PR1572	5:45am	7:45am	4, 7
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:30pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:50pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/193	1:30pm	11:10pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:30pm	2 via GUM
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:50pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA6390/193	2:20pm	11:10pm	2 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

UO43	1:40am	5:00am	1, 4, 6
HX077	2:15am	5:15am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ628/723	3:50am	12:50pm	Daily via ICN
PR1572/318	5:45am	12:20pm	4, 7 via MNL
UA6391/159	1:30pm	10:35pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA6390/159	2:20pm	10:35pm	3, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:25am	2:55pm	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

LJ651	8:25am	1:45pm	Daily
ZE581	10:15am	3:35pm	Daily
7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
TW307	8:15pm	1:35am+1	Daily
OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:30am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	8:30pm	1:20am+1	6, 7
OZ607	9:00pm	1:50am+1	3, 6
7C3452	9:35pm	2:15am+1	3, 4

JEJU (CJU)-SAIPAN

7C3434	10:05pm	2:40am+1	2, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:50pm	2:40am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA192/6395	10:20pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
PR1571	10:25pm	4:45am+1	3, 6
UA184/6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/6395	11:55pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ724/627	2:20pm	2:50am+1	Daily via ICN
HX076	5:50pm	12:45am+1	3, 7
PR307/1571	6:20pm	4:45am+1	3, 6 via MNL
UO42	9:30pm	4:25am+1	2, 4, 6
UA116/6395	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, ZE Eastar Jet, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The* Saipan Tribune *is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO ROTA

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

ROTA TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

McDonald's Saipan's Middle Road branch.

McDonald's Saipan celebrates 24th anniversary

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

McDonald's Saipan turns 24 years old tomorrow. As part of the largest fast food chain in the world, it will mark the occasion with promos and goodies for customers on its special day.

McDonald's would be offering a free special edition McDonald's tumbler for purchases worth more than $24. For children, a reusable Happy Meal cup is available for $0.50.

"Items are available while supplies last and are redeemable on our anniversary date of March 18 only," said executive assistant to the president, Mable Ayuyu.

The company's 24th anniversary means a lot to the Ayuyus.

"We've reached another milestone and we'd like to thank the community for their continued patronage," said owner/operator Marcia Ayuyu.

Mable Ayuyu said the anniversary "gives us an opportunity to thank our valued customers for their support."

"It has been another year that we've contributed and invested in our community," added Mable Ayuyu.

As the community continues to avail of McDonald's services, the more the community supports education, she pointed out.

"When you visit us at McDonald's, you are helping us

See MCDONALD'S on Next Page

> 'When you visit us at McDonald's, you are helping us support education, support sporting events that keep our kids active, and support non-profit organizations that provide humanitarian services to our community.'

CONGRATULATIONS!
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i'm lovin' it
on your 24th Anniversary

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Dignitaries break ground on the future site of McDonald's Saipan Middle Road.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

McDonald's Saipan owner/operator Marcia Ayuyu is joined by other dignitaries during the opening of McDonald's Saipan Middle Road 24 years ago.

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24 delicious years and counting...

CONGRATULATIONS
McDonald's Saipan on your
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McDonald's Saipan participates in the Islandwide Cleanup.

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HAPPY
24th Year
Anniversary

McDonald's
Saipan

Best wishes
from the staff & management of:

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MCDONALD'S

From Page 19

support education, support sporting events that keep our kids active, and support non-profit organizations that provide humanitarian services to our community," she said.

Throughout the years, McDonald's had hosted school events such as McTeacher's Night.

"We've also donated to schools over the 24 years that we've been in business," said Marcia Ayuyu. "We made major donations to organizations that directly help the people in the community such as American Red Cross and others."

In one of their past anniversaries, Ronald McDonald, the famous mascot of the brand, visited Saipan to give children the opportunity to meet the character they've only seen in commercials.

McDonald's was also one of the businesses that offered

See MCDONALD'S on Next Page

Joe Ayuyu Jr., second from right, general manager of McDonald's Middle Road, presents a check for $3,000 to the NMI Track and Field Federation.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

McDonald's takes part in the all-school track and field competition.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

MCDONALD'S

From Page 20

aid when Typhoon Soudelor rampaged through the CNMI.

"It shows a strong relationship with the community," said Joe Ayuyu Jr., general manager of McDonald's Middle Road. "Without the community's support, we won't be in business. We want to thank the community and the employees, because without them nothing really gets done."

In a separate message, Marcia Ayuyu said, "Our vendors are important too us [as well] because when we need things like produce, our vendors help

See MCDONALD'S on Next Page

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McDonald's Saipan owner/operator Marcia Ayuyu, right, joins McDonald's management team.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

MCDONALD'S

From Page 21

us and really go out of their way to provide us the goods that we need."

According to Joe Ayuyu, some of their employees have been with them for several years, with some reaching up to 20 years with the company.

Joyce Asistores is one of them. The current McDonald's Beach Road branch general manager, Asistores, together with Joe Ayuyu Jr., completed a business management course called the General Managers Business Leadership Capsstone at the Hamburger University in Chicago.

Asistores, who completed the course early this year, started out from the bottom and has been with McDonald's for 22 years.

"McDonald's is really a world of opportunity," said Asistores. "If you work here and you have dedication and motivation, then it is [rewarded] and makes it possible to reach managerial positions."

Jason Salazar, a manager-in-training at the McDonald's Beach Road branch, was recently promoted to the managerial position and has been in training since March 12.

"For those interested in working here, it's a really good job to [start your career]. Being a working student, McDonald's adjusted to my class schedules to encourage me to pursue my studies," said Salazar.

Salazar has been working for McDonald's for three years now and has been working full time since then.

For more information about McDonald's Saipan, visit www.jcamcd.com or for questions on the anniversary special, contact McDonald's Saipan at 235-8761 or through email admin@jcamcd.com.

Shirt donations outfit students for success

Second graders in Mrs. Joedeen Manglona's class at Tinian Elementary School proudly display their new shirts after the presentation ceremony in the school library. Also in photo are TES counselor MaryAnn Dela Cruz, TanHoldings vice president for Corporate Affairs Catherine Attao and TanHoldings Community Relations director Carline Sablan.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Tan Siu Lin Foundation and TanHoldings presented its donation of T-shirts and polo shirts to Chacha Oceanview Middle School on March 6, 2017, and to Tinian Elementary School and Tinian Junior/Senior High School on Wednesday this week.

TSL Foundation and TanHoldings representatives personally delivered the shirts to the schools.

TanHoldings president Jerry Tan, who led the donation presentation at Chacha Oceanview Middle School said: "The students were excited and very appreciative of the donation. We are happy we are able to support schools in this way. The TSL Foundation and TanHoldings have a shared commitment to education and student success as both are important to our community and the future of the CNMI. This small gesture is intended to promote school pride, healthy eating, daily exercise and overall student success."

The shirts were custom-printed with the school logo and colors in front and the message "Eat Healthy & Exercise Daily" on the back.

"The shirts are versatile and can be worn on spirit day, on field trips, to athletic competitions or as a uniform shirt worn throughout the school year," added TanHoldings vice president for Corporate Affairs Catherine Attao.

This contribution is part of TSL Foundation's and TanHoldings' $50,000 donation to the CNMI Public School System.

According to TSL Foundation executive director Merlie Tolentino, "Approximately 4,760 students, school faculty and staff have received shirts thus far at eight CNMI public schools."

TSL Foundation is the philanthropic arm of TanHoldings committed to improving the quality of life of the communities it serves. ***(PR)***

TanHoldings president Jerry Tan, far right, in a souvenir photo with Chacha Oceanview Middle School principal Vince Dela Cruz, TSL Foundation executive director Merlie Tolentino, TanHoldings vice president for Corporate Affairs Catherine Attao, students and staff.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

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Hafa Adai! from the staff and management of
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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Accounting Technician (4) $6.55 - $8.00/hour OR $1,300 to $2,300/month
Must be a college graduate with a minimum of two years' experience as an Accounting Technician. Capable of performing combines routine calculations, posting and verifying duties to obtain primary financial data to maintain accounting records. Know how to prepare CNMI taxes & licenses. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Architectural Drafter Technician (3) $6.55 - $8.50/hour
Must be a college graduate with a minimum of two years' experience as an Architectural Technician. Capable of preparing detailed drawings of architectural/structural features of buildings as well as drawings and photographic relief maps used in civil engineering projects such as highways, bridges and other public works. Knowledgeable on building materials engineering practices/mathematics used to complete drawings drafts. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Auto Body Repairer (4) $6.55 - $6.75/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of two years' experience as Auto Body Repairer. With knowledge how to repair and refinish automotive vehicle bodies and straighten vehicle frames. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Automobile Electrician (2) $6.55 - $7.15/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of two years' work related experience. Able to diagnose and undertake electrical repairs on a wide variety of vehicles and heavy equipment. With knowledge on electric motor, alternator, starter and motor rewinding. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Carpenter (23) $6.55 - $7.85/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of two years' experience as a Carpenter, With knowledge how to construct, erect, install, or repair structures and fixtures made of wood, such as concrete forms; building frameworks, including partitions, joists, studding, and rafters; and wood stairways, window and door frames, and hardwood floors. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Civil Engineering Technicians (3) $6.55-7.50/hour OR $ 1,300 to $2,150/month
Must be a college graduate with minimum of two years' experience as a Civil Engineering Technician with knowledge how to apply Theory and Principles of Civil Engineering in planning, designing and overseeing construction, structure maintenance and facilities under the directions of engineering staff or physical scientist. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.
Diesel Mechanic (1) $6.55 - $6.70/hour
Must be a high school graduate with a minimum of two years' work related experience. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Electrician (2) $6.55 - $7.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of two years' experience as Electrician. With knowledge on how to install, maintain, and repair electrical wiring, equipment, and fixtures. Able to install or service street lights, intercom systems, or electrical control systems. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.
General Maintenance (3) $6.55 - $6.80/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of two years' experience as a General Maintenance. Able to install various equipment. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Heavy Equipment Mechanic (12) $6.55 - $8.00/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of two years' experience as Heavy Equipment Mechanic. With knowledge how to diagnose, adjust, repair, or overhaul automobiles, hydraulic, and pneumatic equipment, such as cranes, bulldozers, graders, excavators, trucks and conveyors, typically used in constructions. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Heavy Equipment Operator (30) $6.55 - $7.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of two years' experience as HE Operator. With knowledge how to operate several types of power construction equipment, such as motor graders, bulldozers, trenching machine, scrapers, compressors, pumps, derricks, shovels, tractors, or front-end loaders to excavate, move, and grade earth, erect structures, or pour concretes and etc. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Machinist (2) $6.55 - $7.00/hour
Must be a high school graduate with a minimum of two years' experience as a Machinist. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Mason (25) $6.55 - $7.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of two years' experience as Mason. With knowledge how to do smooth and finish surfaces of poured concrete, such as floors, walks, sidewalks, roads, or curbs using a variety of hand and power tools. Align forms for sidewalks, curbs, or gutters; patch voids; and use saws to cut expansion joints. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Mechanical Engineering Technicians (2) $6.55-7.65/hour
Must be a college graduate with minimum of two years' experience as a Mechanical Engineering Technician with knowledge on how to apply Theory and Principles of Mechanical Engineering in planning, designing and overseeing construction, structure maintenance and other facilities under the directions of engineering staff or physical scientist. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Painter (4) $6.55 - $7.00/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of two years' experience as Painter. Knowledgeable on how to operate/tend various painting machines. Able to paint transportation equipment surfaces, such as automobiles, buses, trucks, trains, boats, airplanes and etc. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Plumber (4) $6.55 - $7.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of two years' experience as a plumber with knowledge to assemble, install alter and repair pipelines or pipe systems that carry water, steam, air or other liquids or gases. May install heating and cooling equipment and mechanical control systems and sprinkler fitters. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Rigger (1) $6.55 - $6.60/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of two years' work related experience. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Sales Person (3) $6.55 - $7.50/hour
Must be a college graduate with a minimum of two years' work experience as a Sales Person. Able to sell merchandises such as light/heavy vehicles, motor vehicle parts, heavy equipment parts and appliances to customers. Great customers and assist their needs and wants, as well as to explain the merchandises and its usage, operation and proper care. Capable of recommending, selecting and helping customers obtain desired and needed products. Calculate prices, tally purchases, compute receivables and process cash and credit payments. Prepare sale slips or sale contracts and place special orders to the suppliers for the customer's desired items. Enjoy dealing with customers and answering their questions regarding the store merchandises

Sheet Metal Worker (1) $6.55 - $7.00/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of two years' experience as a Sheet Metal Worker. Must be knowledgeable on installing pre-fabricated sheet metal ducts used for heating, air conditioning equipment and etc. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Steel Worker (6) $6.55 - $7.65/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of two years' experience as a Steel Worker. With knowledge how to rise, place and unite iron or steel girders, R columns and structural members to form a completed structures or structural frameworks. May erect metal storage tanks and assemble prefabricated metal buildings. Position and secure steel bars or mesh in concrete forms in order to reinforce concrete. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.
Tower Crane Operator (1) $6.55 - $6.60/hour
Must be a high school graduate with a minimum of two years' work related experience. Must be able to comply with all safety regulations and work with minimal supervision. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Truck Driver (2) $6.55 - $7.45/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of two years' experiences as a Truck Driver with knowledge on how to drive a Tractor Trailer or Trucks that has a capacity of at least 26,000 GVW for various construction materials transportation. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Welder (15) $6.55 - $7.00/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of two years' experience as a Welder. With knowledge how to use hand-welding, flame-cutting, hand soldering, or brazing equipment to weld or join metal components or to fill holes, indentations, or seams of fabricated metal products. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

All of the above positions must be able to work flexible time. Interested applicants may apply at Apex Builders, INC. office located at As Perdido, Saipan. A copy of police clearance must be attached to the application. Incomplete application will NOT be accepted. Skills, testing maybe required. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. APEX Builders is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

GPPC, INC.
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Accounting Technician (4) $6.55 - $8.00/hour OR $1,300 to $2,300/month
Must be a college graduate with a minimum of two years' experience as an Accounting Technician. Capable of performing combines routine calculations, posting and verifying duties to obtain primary financial data to maintain accounting records. Know how to prepare CNMI taxes & licenses. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Administrative Assistant (1) $6.55 - $8.00/hour
Must be a college graduate with a minimum of two years' experience. Knowledgeable on construction business. Preferably someone who can operate Microsoft Office & Power Point Programs. Salaries and commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Architectural Drafter Technician (3) $6.55 - $8.50/hour
Must be a college graduate with a minimum of two years' experience as an Architectural Technician. Capable of preparing detailed drawings of architectural/structural features of buildings as well as drawings and photographic relief maps used in civil engineering projects such as highways, bridges and other public works. Knowledgeable on building materials engineering practices/mathematics used to complete drawings drafts. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Auto Body Repairer (4) $6.55 - $6.75/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of two years' experience as Auto Body Repairer. With knowledge how to repair and refinish automotive vehicle bodies and straighten vehicle frames. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Automobile Electrician (2) $6.55 - $7.15/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of two years' work related experience. Able to diagnose and undertake electrical repairs on a wide variety of vehicles and heavy equipment. With knowledge on electric motor, alternator, starter and motor rewinding. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Carpenter (46) $6.55 - $7.85/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of two years' experience as a Carpenter, With knowledge how to construct, erect, install, or repair structures and fixtures made of wood, such as concrete forms; building frameworks, including partitions, joists, studding, and rafters; and wood stairways, window and door frames, and hardwood floors. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Civil Engineering Technicians (3) $6.55-7.50/hour OR $ 1,300 to $2,150/month
Must be a college graduate with minimum of two years' experience as a Civil Engineering Technician with knowledge how to apply Theory and Principles of Civil Engineering in planning, designing and overseeing construction, structure maintenance and facilities under the directions of engineering staff or physical scientist. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Construction Manager (1) $1,300 to $3,250/month
Must be a college graduate or with a minimum of two years' experience as a Construction Manager, including managers in specialized construction fields such as carpentry or plumbing. Knowledge on planning, directing and coordinating activities concerning construction and maintenance of structures, facilities and systems with subordinate supervisory personnel. Able to participate in the conceptual development of a construction projects and oversee its organization such as scheduling, budgeting and implementation. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Diesel Mechanic (1) $6.55 - $6.70/hour
Must be a high school graduate with a minimum of two years' work related experience. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Electrician (8) $6.55 - $7.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of two years' experience as Electrician. With knowledge on how to install, maintain, and repair electrical wiring, equipment, and fixtures. Able to install or service street lights, intercom systems, or electrical control systems. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Electrical Engineering Technician (1) $6.55 - $7.50/hour
Must be a college graduate with a minimum of two years' experience as an Electrical Engineering Technician. Able to apply Theory and Principles of Electrical Engineering in planning, designing and overseeing construction, structure maintenance and facilities under the directions of engineering staff or physical scientist. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

General Maintenance (3) $6.55 - $6.80/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of two years' experience as a General Maintenance. Able to install various equipment. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Heavy Equipment Mechanic (12) $6.55 - $8.00/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of two years' experience as Heavy Equipment Mechanic. With knowledge how to diagnose, adjust, repair, or overhaul automobiles, hydraulic, and pneumatic equipment, such as cranes, bulldozers, graders, excavators, trucks and conveyors, typically used in constructions. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Heavy Equipment Operator (45) $6.55 - $7.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of two years' experience as HE Operator. With knowledge how to operate several types of power construction equipment, such as motor graders, bulldozers, trenching machine, scrapers, compressors, pumps, derricks, shovels, tractors, or front-end loaders to excavate, move, and grade earth, erect structures, or pour concretes and etc. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Machinist (2) $6.55 - $7.00/hour
Must be a high school graduate with a minimum of two years' experience as a Machinist. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Mason (50) $6.55 - $7.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of two years' experience as Mason. With knowledge how to do smooth and finish surfaces of poured concrete, such as floors, walks, sidewalks, roads, or curbs using a variety of hand and power tools. Align forms for sidewalks, curbs, or gutters; patch voids; and use saws to cut expansion joints. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Mechanical Engineering Technicians (2) $6.55-7.65/hour
Must be a college graduate with minimum of two years' experience as a Mechanical Engineering Technician with knowledge on how to apply Theory and Principles of Mechanical Engineering in planning, designing and overseeing construction, structure maintenance and other facilities under the directions of engineering staff or physical scientist. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Painter (4) $6.55 - $7.00/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of two years' experience as Painter. Knowledgeable on how to operate/tend various painting machines. Able to paint transportation equipment surfaces, such as automobiles, buses, trucks, trains, boats, airplanes and etc. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Plumber (4) $6.55 - $7.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of two years' experience as a plumber with knowledge to assemble, install alter and repair pipelines or pipe systems that carry water, steam, air or other liquids or gases. May install heating and cooling equipment and mechanical control systems and sprinkler fitters. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Rigger (1) $6.55 - $6.60/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of two years' work related experience. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Sales Person (3) $6.55 - $7.50/hour
Must be a college graduate with a minimum of two years' work experience as a Sales Person. Able to sell merchandises such as light/heavy vehicles, motor vehicle parts, heavy equipment parts and appliances to customers. Great customers and assist their needs and wants, as well as to explain the merchandises and its usage, operation and proper care. Capable of recommending, selecting and helping customers obtain desired and needed products. Calculate prices, tally purchases, compute receivables and process cash and credit payments. Prepare sale slips or sale contracts and place special orders to the suppliers for the customer's desired items. Enjoy dealing with customers and answering their questions regarding the store merchandises

Sheet Metal Worker (1) $6.55 - $7.00/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of two years' experience as a Sheet Metal Worker. Must be knowledgeable on installing pre-fabricated sheet metal ducts used for heating, air conditioning equipment and etc. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Steel Worker (6) $6.55 - $7.65/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of two years' experience as a Steel Worker. With knowledge how to rise, place and unite iron or steel girders, R columns and structural members to form a completed structures or structural frameworks. May erect metal storage tanks and assemble prefabricated metal buildings. Position and secure steel bars or mesh in concrete forms in order to reinforce concrete. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Tower Crane Operator (1) $6.55 - $6.60/hour
Must be a high school graduate with a minimum of two years' work related experience. Must be able to comply with all safety regulations and work with minimal supervision. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Truck Driver (2) $6.55 - $7.45/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of two years' experiences as a Truck Driver with knowledge on how to drive a Tractor Trailer or Trucks that has a capacity of at least 26,000 GVW for various construction materials transportation. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Welder (15) $6.55 - $7.00/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of two years' experience as a Welder. With knowledge how to use hand-welding, flame-cutting, hand soldering, or brazing equipment to weld or join metal components or to fill holes, indentations, or seams of fabricated metal products. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

All of the above positions must be able to work flexible time
Interested applicants may apply at GPPC, INC. office located at Tun kioshi, Kileleman Rd. As Perdido, Saipan 96950. A copy of police clearance must be attached to the application. Incomplete application will NOT be accepted. Skills, testing maybe required. GPPC, INC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
The above position will be closed on March 21, 2017.

Laolao Bay Golf & Resort to host 21st Hyatt Golf Classic

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Hyatt Regency Saipan director of Rooms Rosalyn Quintanilla; Hyatt Regency Saipan F&B director Tyrell Pauling; Laolao Bay Golf & Resort general manager Chang Ho Kim; Laolao Bay Golf & Resort marketing manager Paul Park; and Hyatt Regency Saipan executive sous chef Zenn Tomokane.

Hyatt Regency Saipan will host its 21st Annual Charity Golf Classic on April 22 at Laolao Bay Golf & Resort west course, placing the golf resort in the platinum sponsor tier for another year in a row. With good rapport from golfers and event partners, Hyatt Regency Saipan hopes to continue its partnership with Laolao Bay Golf & Resort.

"Partnering with Hyatt Regency Saipan for their 21st Annual Charity Golf Classic tournament is a commitment we highly regard. We also believe in supporting the island community of Saipan to help sustain our economy. We look forward to an excellent turnout and encourage golfers to register by the 17th of April for the early bird special," Laolao Bay Golf & Resort general manager Chang Ho Kim.

All proceeds will go to the event's six beneficiaries to include: Make-A-Wish Foundation, Kagman High School Million Dollar Club, Marianas Behavioral Health International, Karidat, Empty Vessel Ministry Foundation, and the Northern Marianas Humanities Council.

"We are very pleased to have the support of Laolao Bay Golf & Resort for our 21st Annual Charity Golf Classic. Together we work toward a common goal of caring for our island community," said Hyatt Regency Saipan general manager Nick Nishikawa.

Laolao Bay Golf & Resort, in partnership with Dae Woo Construction, is a multi-recreation facility with a 36-hole golf course that can be split into two more commonly known courses, east course and west course.

The east course consists of remarkable fairways allowing golfers to enjoy the exotic taste of the lush, green scenery.

The west course sits along the coastline of the South Pacific Ocean offering golfers a challenging and thrilling course calling for more strategic and aggressive shots.

The clubhouse and tower of Laolao Bay Golf & Resort offer a relaxing ambiance for guests to indulge in the breath-taking view of the bay.

Hyatt Regency Saipan will hold its 21st Annual Charity Golf Classic event at LaoLao Bay Golf and Resort west course on Saturday, April 22, 2017. Early Bird registration is open until Monday, 17 April 2016 at 4pm for a rate of $100 per golfer.

For more information contact 234-1234 Ext. 26. ***(PR)***

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

2017 XTERRA Saipan

The 2017 XTERRA Saipan will be held on Saturday, March 18, 2017. Drivers are advised to exercise caution and follow all traffic officer directions, and dog owners are reminded to secure their pets along the race route from American Memorial Park to Navy Hill, Capital Hill, Wireless Ridge, As Teo, Mt. Tapochao, China Town, Garapan, and adjacent areas. For more information, contact the Marianas Visitors Authority. ***(PR)***

Kindergarten registration at SVES

Registration for Kindergarten at San Vicente Elementary School is scheduled to from April 3 to 28, 2017, from 9am to 11am and from 1pm to 3pm. Registrations will take place in the school main office. There are limited slots available. Your child must be 5 years of age on or before Sept. 30, 2012. Should you have any questions, contact 664-3981 through 84. ***(PR)***

Business

Trump budget slashes agency money to boost defense spending

AP

A portion of President Donald Trump's first proposed budget, focusing on the Department of Defense, and released by the Office of Management and Budget, is photographed in Washington, Wednesday, March 15, 2017.

WASHINGTON (AP)— President Donald Trump is unveiling a $1.15 trillion budget, a far-reaching overhaul of federal government spending that slashes a dozen departments to finance a significant increase in the military and make a down payment on a U.S.-Mexico border wall.

Thursday's scheduled budget release will upend Washington with cuts to long-promised campaign targets like foreign aid and the Environmental Protection Agency as well as strong congressional favorites such as medical research, help for homeless veterans and community development grants.

"A budget that puts America first must make the safety of our people its number one priority - because without safety, there can be no prosperity," Trump said in a message accompanying his proposed budget that was titled "America First: A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again."

The $54 billion boost for the military is the largest since President Ronald Reagan's Pentagon buildup in the 1980s, promising immediate money for troop readiness, the fight against Islamic State militants and procurement of new ships, fighter jets and other weapons. The 10 percent Pentagon boost is financed by $54 billion in cuts to foreign aid and domestic agencies that had been protected by former President Barack Obama.

The budget goes after the frequent targets of the party's staunchest conservatives, eliminating the National Endowment for the Arts, legal aid for the poor, low-income heating assistance and the AmeriCorps national service program established by former President Bill Clinton.

Such programs were the focus of lengthy battles dating to the GOP takeover of Congress in 1995 and have survived pri- or attempts to eliminate them. Lawmakers will have the final say on Trump's proposal in the arduous budget process.

The budget is set for official release Thursday morning, but The Associated Press and other news outlets obtained the document in advance.

Law enforcement agencies like the FBI would be spared, while the border wall would receive an immediate $1.5 billion infusion in the ongoing fiscal year, with another $2.6 billion planned for the 2018 budget year starting Oct. 1.

Trump repeatedly claimed during the campaign that Mexico would pay for the wall when, in fact, U.S. taxpayers will foot the bill.

Twelve of the government's 15 Cabinet agencies would absorb cuts under the president's proposal. The biggest losers are Agriculture, Labor, State and the Cabinet-level EPA. Defense, Homeland Security and Veterans Affairs are the winners.

More than 3,000 EPA workers would lose their jobs and programs such as Obama's Clean Power Plan, which would tighten regulations on emissions from power plants seen as contributing to global warming, would be eliminated. Popular EPA grants for state and local drinking and wastewater projects would be preserved, however.

Trump's proposal only covers roughly one-fourth of the approximately $4 trillion federal budget, the discretionary portion that Congress passes each year. It doesn't address taxes, Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid, or make predictions about deficits and the economy. Those big-picture details are due in mid-May, and are sure to show large - probably permanent - budget deficits. Trump has vowed not to cut Social Security and Medicare and is dead set against raising taxes.

"The president's going to keep his promises" to leave Social Security and Medicare alone, said White House Budget Director Mick Mulvaney.

Trump's proposal is sure to land with a thud on Capitol Hill, and not just with opposition Democrats outraged over cuts to pet programs such as renewable energy, climate change research and rehabilitation of housing projects.

Republicans like Sen. Rob Portman of Ohio are irate over planned elimination of a program to restore the Great Lakes. Top Republicans like Majority Leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky and Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Bob Corker of Tennessee are opposed to drastic cuts to foreign aid. And even GOP defense hawks like Armed Services Committee Chairman Mac Thornberry of Texas aren't satisfied with the $54 billion increase for the military.

Before the two sides go to war over Trump's 2018 plan, they need to clean up more than $1.1 trillion in unfinished agency budgets for the current year. A temporary catchall spending bill expires April 28; negotiations have barely started and could get hung up over Trump's request for the wall and additional border patrol and immigration enforcement agents, just for starters.

Some of the most politically sensitive domestic programs would be spared, including food aid for pregnant women and their children, housing vouchers for the poor, aid for special education and school districts for the poor, and federal aid to historically black colleges and universities.

MILESTONES MATTER: LET'S TALK ABOUT THEM!

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Children's Developmental Center (C*DAC) | Tel: 664-4841/4842/4844

Learn the Signs. Act Early.
Developed in partnership by the University of Missouri and the US Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

healthy families america
H.O.M.E. Visiting Program

This project is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) under grant number X02MC28239, Affordable Care Act (ACA) Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program grant.

NEWBORN HEARING SCREENING PROGRAM

Babies learn from the time they are born. One of the ways they learn is through hearing. When a baby is born with hearing loss, many sounds and voices are not heard, and the child's speech and language development can be delayed. CHCC implemented newborn hearing as a standard of care and all babies get their hearing screened shortly after birth.

Ask if your baby passed the test. If you have concerns or your baby needs follow up call 236-8709.

Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

Printing funded by the Universal Newborn Hearing Screening Grant under the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Service Administration.

WANTED

NEWS REPORTER

The *Saipan Tribune* is looking for a FULL-TIME news reporter.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Above average writing skills and can work within deadlines;
- Fast learner, self-starter, and a team player;
- Computer literate;
- With photography skills;
- Must have reliable means of transportation.

If you have what it takes to be part of a dynamic team, email your résumé and samples of your work to editor@saipantribune.com. You may also drop it off at the *Saipan Tribune* office on the second floor of the JP Center Building on Beach Road, Garapan. ON-ISLAND HIRES PREFERRED.

Saipan Tribune, Inc. is an equal opportunity employer.
Qualified women, minorities, and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

Trump announces challenge to Obama-era fuel standards

YPSILANTI, Mich. (AP)—President Donald Trump announced Wednesday that his administration will re-examine federal requirements governing the fuel efficiency of cars and trucks, moving forcefully against Obama-era environmental regulations that Trump says are stifling economic growth.

Trump revealed his plans during a speech at an automotive testing center near Detroit, where he also met with auto company executives and workers.

"This is going to be a new era for American jobs and job creation," Trump said at a round-table meeting.

The EPA under Obama had promulgated a rule for cars and trucks requiring a fleet-wide average of 36 mpg in real-world driving by 2025.

Trump's decision, while having no immediate effect, requires the Environmental Protection Agency to determine no later than April 2018 whether the 2022-2025 standards established are appropriate. If the EPA determines they are not appropriate, the agency will submit a new proposal next year.

"My administration will work tirelessly to eliminate the industry-killing regulations, to lower the job-crushing taxes and to ensure a level playing field for all American companies and workers," Trump said at the American Center for Mobility, which produced B-24 bombers during World War II and is being converted into an automotive testing and product development facility.

Trump's announcement is expected to set the stage for weaker fuel efficiency standards as well as drawn-out legal battles with environmental groups and states such as California that adopted their own tough tailpipe standards for drivers.

GOP health overhaul puts pressure on state governments

CHERRY HILL, N.J. (AP)—The Republican health care plan means less money for states and gives them a tough choice: Find a pot of cash to make up the difference or let coverage lapse for millions of lower-income Americans.

Governors and state lawmakers analyzing the Republican plan to replace former President Barack Obama's Affordable Care Act fear a return to the past, when those without health coverage used emergency rooms for their medical needs. That uncompensated care was written off by hospitals or billed to the state.

The ax would fall especially hard on Medicaid, the state-federal program that provides health care to the poor and lower-income workers.

In Washington, for example, state officials say they would have to come up with $1.5 billion a year starting in 2020 to keep coverage in place for about 600,000 residents who gained coverage through the Medicaid expansion that was a key part of Obama's health care law.

"It would actually leave our nation worse off than before the ACA was implemented," Gov. Jay Inslee, a Democrat, said in a written statement.

Most states don't yet have firm cost estimates on the consequences of the proposal by Republicans in the U.S. House. A Congressional Budget Office analysis released Monday said the GOP plan would lead to 24 million Americans losing health care coverage over the next decade but did not provide a state-by-state breakdown.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-17-020

CORAL TREE AVENUE, GARAPAN SEWER LINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT (S-11-017)

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the replacement of sewer line in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The project consists, in general of the replacement of asbestos cement pipe (ACP) in Coral Tree Avenue, Garapan. The work shall be done not to disrupt the daily operation of the sewer discharge. The Project is to replace approximately ± 190 LF of existing 12-inch ACP, 6-inch service lateral connections, installation and monitoring of wastewater temporary by-pass pumping system and road restoration.

This project is funded by a grant from the United Sates of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA.

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **60 calendar** days from date of award of contract.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **March 14, 2017 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-17-020, Coral Tree Avenue, Garapan Sewer Line Replacement Project",** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on March 23, 2017**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

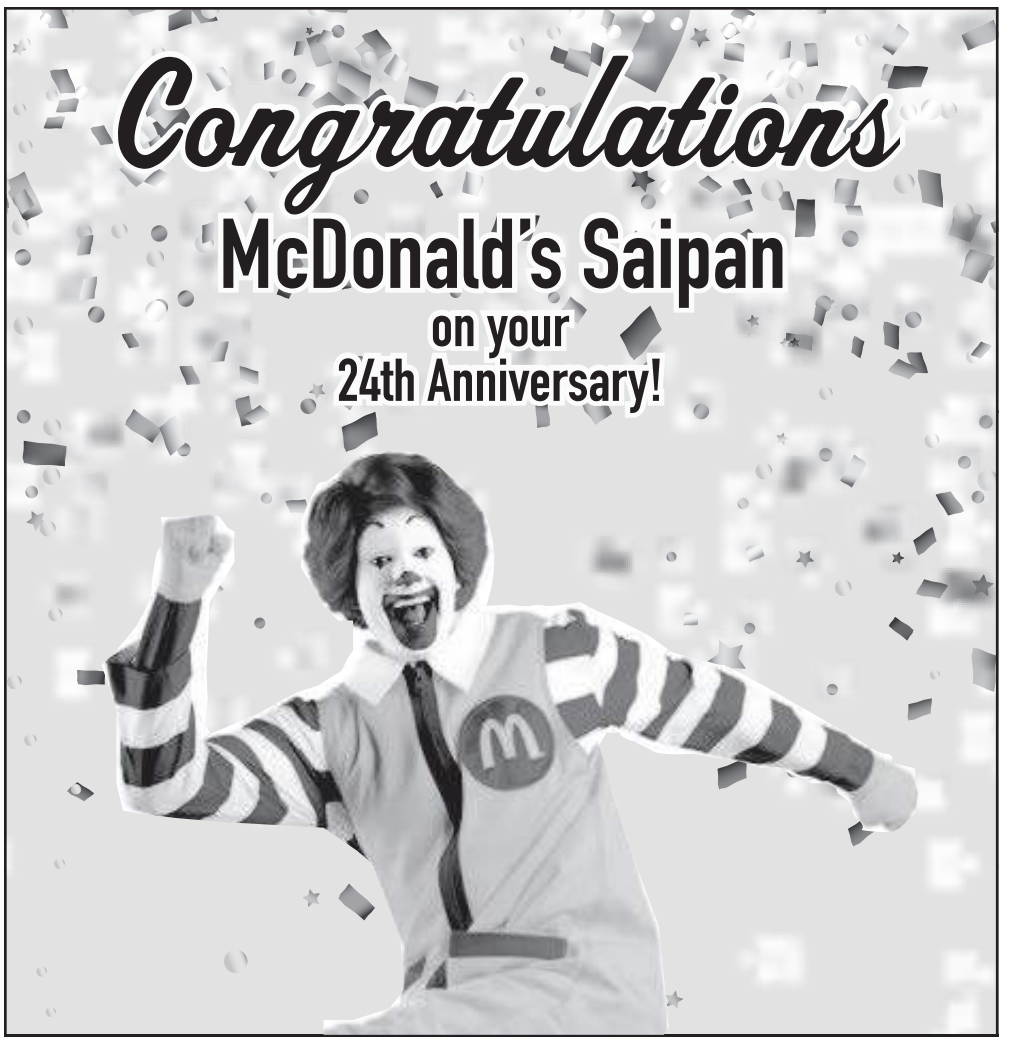
Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **4:00 PM (ChST) on March 15, 2017** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Birhen Martinez, CUC Water/Wastewater Senior Engineer – via email birhen.martinez@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator



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Nation

Trump suffers second defeat as revised travel ban on hold

HONOLULU (AP)—A federal judge blocked President Donald Trump's revised travel ban hours before it was to take effect, marking the second time courts have thwarted Trump's efforts to freeze immigration by refugees and citizens of some predominantly Muslim nations.

This time, the ruling came from a judge in Hawaii who rejected the government's claims that the travel ban is about national security, not discrimination. U.S. District Judge Derrick Watson also said Hawaii would suffer financially if the executive order constricted the flow of students and tourists to the state, and that Hawaii was likely to succeed on a claim that the ban violates First Amendment protections against religious discrimination.

Watson criticized what he called the "illogic" of the government's arguments and cited "significant and unrebutted evidence of religious animus" behind the travel ban. He also noted that while courts should not examine the "veiled psyche" and "secret motives" of government decision-makers, "the remarkable facts at issue here require no such impermissible inquiry."

"For instance, there is nothing 'veiled' about this press release: 'Donald J. Trump is calling for a total and complete shutdown of Muslims entering the United States,'" Watson wrote, referring to a statement Trump issued as a candidate.

Trump called the ruling an example of "unprecedented judicial overreach" and said his administration would appeal it to the U.S. Supreme Court. He also called his new travel ban a watered-down version of the first one, which he said he wished he could implement.

"We're going to win. We're going to keep our citizens safe," the president said at a rally in Nashville. "The danger is clear. The law is clear. The need for my executive order is clear."

If the administration seeks an emergency stay of Watson's decision at the 9th Circuit, the matter would be heard by different judges from the three who ruled on the case last month. That's because the panel of judges assigned to such cases rotates every month, said court spokesman David Madden.

The 9th Circuit on Wednesday declined to reconsider the 3-0 decision not to reinstate the original ban. In a dissent, five judges said they considered that decision incorrect and wanted it vacated.

"Whatever we, as individuals, may feel about the president or the executive order, the president's decision was well within the powers of the presidency," Judge Jay Bybee wrote for the five.

Watson issued his 43-page ruling less than two hours after hearing Hawaii's request for a temporary restraining order to stop the ban from being put into practice.

The hearing was one of three held Wednesday in federal courts around the country. U.S. District Judge James Robart in Seattle, who blocked the initial travel ban last month, did not immediately rule on a request from an immigrant-rights group to block the revised version. Neither was there a ruling from U.S. District Judge Theodore Chuang in Maryland in a challenge brought by the American Civil Liberties Union and other groups.

In all, more than half a dozen states are trying to stop the ban. A case brought by Washington state argues that the new order harms residents, universities and businesses, especially tech companies such as Washington state-based Microsoft and Amazon, which rely on foreign workers. California, Maryland, Massachusetts, New York and Oregon have joined the claim.

Trump's initial travel ban, issued on a Friday in late January, brought chaos and protests to airports around the country as travelers from seven nations—Somalia, Iran, Iraq, Syria, Sudan, Libya and Yemen—were barred from entering even if they had prior permission to come to the U.S. The State Department canceled up to 60,000 visas, but later reversed that decision.

Robart ordered the government to stop enforcing the ban, which also suspended the nation's acceptance of refugees from around the world, and a three-judge panel from the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals unanimously declined to reinstate the ban.

AP

Hawaii attorney general Douglas Chin, left, along with Hawaii Gov. David Ige, speaks at a press conference Wednesday, March 15, 2017, in Honolulu.

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Website: http://www.marianas.edu

Re-Announcement No. 17-013
POSITION TITLE: Bookstore Manager
Department: NMC Bookstore
Pay Level & Step: 30/01 – 30/02
Annual Salary: $39,256.56 – $40,360.43
Location: As Terlaje Campus, Saipan
Opening Date: 03/10/2017
Closing Date: March 20, 2017 or Until Filled

Applications must be submitted by 4:40 pm on the closing date. If there are no qualified applicants or the set of qualified applicants is deemed an insufficient pool, the closing date will be extended for two-week periods for further submission and review of applications until the search is closed. Deadlines that fall on a non-business day will be extended to the next business day. All salaries are subject to availability of funds. The College is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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TANKER DRIVER

This position is responsible for operating heavy goods vehicles to load, transport and deliver petroleum products safely, and during the course of delivering products engage with customers to ensure delivery accuracy. The ideal candidate will be reliable, punctual, self-motivated, and have the ability to work flexible hours. Qualified applicants must have at least two years of truck-driving experience.

Interested individuals who meet the above requirements should submit their resume no later than Wednesday, March 22, 2017. Applications and resumes may be submitted to the attention of IP&E Human Recourses Department via:

Office: IP&E Puerto Rico Terminal Office
Email: HumanResourceTeam@ipehq.com
Mail to: IP&E Guam
643 Chalan San Antonio, Suite 100
Tamuning, Guam 96913

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Re-Announcement No. 16-027 (Revised)
Position Title: **Program Coordinator II (Service Learning)**
Department: Learning Support Services
Pay Level & Step: 22/01 – 22/02
Annual Salary: $26,773.63 - $27,710.10
Location: As Terlaje Campus, Saipan
Opening Date: March 09, 2017
Closing Date: March 20, 2017 or Until Filled

Re-Announcement No. 17-014
Position Title: **Administrative Manager I**
Department: School of Education
Pay Level & Step: 20/01 – 20/02
Annual Salary: $24,330.79 - $25,182.37
Location: As Terlaje Campus, Saipan
Opening Date: March 13, 2017
Closing Date: March 22, 2017 or Until Filled

Announcement No. 17-010
Position Title: **Network Specialist I**
Department: Information Technology
Pay Level & Step: 32/01 – 32/02
Annual Salary: $43,197.84 - $44,709.77
Location: As Terlaje Campus, Saipan
Opening Date: March 13, 2017
Closing Date: March 22, 2017 or Until Filled

Re-Announcement No. 17-008
Position Title: **Instructor, Fine Arts Visual**
Department: Social Sciences Fine Arts
Pay Level & Step: 32/01 – 32/02
Annual Salary: $41,527.83 - $42,981.30
Location: As Terlaje Campus, Saipan
Opening Date: March 13, 2017
Closing Date: March 22, 2017 or Until Filled

Re-Announcement No. 17-009
Position Title: **Administrative Assistant III (SMHA)**
Department: Science, Mathematics, Health & Athletics
Pay Level & Step: 19/01 – 19/02
Annual Salary: $23,194.27 - $24,006.07
Location: As Terlaje Campus, Saipan
Opening Date: March 13, 2017
Closing Date: March 22, 2017 or Until Filled

Re-Announcement No. 17-006
Position Title: **Program Lead: Extension Research & Communications Specialist**
Department: CREES
Pay Level & Step: 32/01 – 35/02
Annual Salary: $45,632.48 - $53,126.90
Location: As Terlaje Campus, Saipan
Opening Date: March 14, 2017
Closing Date: March 23, 2017 or Until Filled

Re-Announcement No. 17-005
Position Title: **Extension Agent** (Agriculture/Community Development)
Department: CREES
Pay Level & Step: 29/01 – 29/02
Location: Rota Campus, Rota
Opening Date: March 14, 2017
Closing Date: March 23, 2017 or Until Filled

Applications must be submitted by 4:40 pm on the closing date. If there are no qualified applicants or the set of qualified applicants is deemed an insufficient pool, the closing date will be extended for two-week periods for further submission and review of applications until the search is closed. Deadlines that fall on a non-business day will be extended to the next business day. All salaries are subject to availability of funds. The College is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Trump's allies melting away on wiretapping claims

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Donald Trump's explosive allegation that Barack Obama wiretapped his New York skyscraper during the presidential campaign has left him increasingly isolated, with allies on Capitol Hill and within his own administration offering no evidence to back him up.

On Wednesday, Attorney General Jeff Sessions said he had not given Trump any reason to believe he was wiretapped by President Obama. Republican Rep. Devin Nunes, chairman of the House intelligence committee, said he had seen no information to support the claim and then went further. He suggested the U.S. president's assertion, made in a series of March 4 tweets, should not be taken at face value.

"Are you going to take the tweets literally?" Nunes said. "If so, clearly the president was wrong."

Trump, in an interview Wednesday with Fox News, predicted there would be "some very interesting items coming to the forefront over the next two weeks." The president said he'd learned about the alleged wiretapping from news reports referencing intercepted communications, despite the fact that he and his advisers have publicly denounced stories about government agencies reviewing contacts between Trump associates and Russians.

Trump's allegations have put him in a potentially perilous position as congressional investigations into Russia's involvement in the 2016 election - and possible Russian contacts with Trump associates - ramp up. The FBI is also investigating.

If no evidence of wiretapping at Trump Tower emerges, his credibility would be newly damaged. If there is proof that the Obama administration approved monitoring of Trump or his associates, that would suggest the government had reason to be suspicious of their contacts with Russia and a judge had approved the surveillance.

The president, who appears to have made his allegation in a burst of anger, has asked lawmakers to investigate the claim. Lawmakers have since turned the question back toward the administration, asking the Justice Department to provide evidence of wiretapping activity.

The Justice Department missed a Monday deadline for providing the information to the House and was given a one-week extension.

Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., who heads the Judiciary Committee's crime and terrorism subcommittee, said the FBI will provide a classified briefing on the matter "at some time in the future." Graham has previously said he would use subpoena power to get information from the FBI about whether a warrant was issued allowing the Obama administration to tap Trump's phones during the campaign.

Longtime Trump adviser Roger Stone told The Associated Press Wednesday that he believes his own online exchanges with a Russian-linked hacker were obtained through a special warrant that allows the government to collect the communications of people suspected of being agents of a foreign nation. Stone communicated through Twitter direct messages with Guccifer 2.0, a hacker who has claimed responsibility for breaching the Democratic National Committee.

Stone said he was unaware at the time that U.S. officials believed the hacker had ties to Russia. He said he is willing to testify before any congressional committee that holds its hearings "in public and not behind closed doors."

Alito: US's dedication to religious liberty being tested

MADISON, N.J. (AP)—The U.S. is entering a period when its commitment to religious liberty is being tested, Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito told an audience Wednesday at an event sponsored by a Catholic lawyers' organization.

Alito used his own words from his dissent in the Supreme Court's landmark same-sex marriage case, telling the gathering he had predicted opposition to the decision would be used to "vilify those who disagree, and treat them as bigots."

"We are seeing this is coming to pass," he said, then mentioned Bob Dylan's famous song lyric, "You don't need a weatherman to know which way the wind blows."

"A wind is picking up that is hostile to those with traditional moral beliefs," Alito said.

The speech was sponsored by Advocati Christi, a group of Catholic lawyers and judges who seek to "provide an opportunity for lawyers learn about the Catholic faith and Catholic social teaching and to help them integrate these into their life and practice."

Alito served as U.S. Attorney in New Jersey and was based in Newark while a member of the 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. He has been a Supreme Court justice since 2006.

In a roughly 45-minute speech that mentioned the Founding Fathers and 19th-century French writer Alexis De Tocqueville as well as Dylan and the 1960s TV sitcom "The Flying Nun," Alito discussed the hostility faced by Catholics in the U.S. over the centuries, and of his own joy as a youth staying up until the wee hours of the morning to witness John F. Kennedy elected the first Roman Catholic president in 1960.

"I felt it had lifted me up from the status of second-class American," he said.

While religious freedom has been recognized in Congress and in the courts, Alito said, attitudes are slower to change. He recounted a Democratic lawmaker who opposed his nomination in 2005 because Alito would make "too many Catholics on the court."

Alito said reactions to Supreme Court decisions such as the Hobby Lobby case, in which a company balked at being required to cover certain forms of contraception in its employee health plan, should spur action.

Oklahoma senator found with teen in motel could face charges

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)—Charges could be filed Thursday against an Oklahoma state senator who police say was found with a teenage boy in a motel room in the Oklahoma City suburb of Moore, according to a local prosecutor.

Cleveland County District Attorney Greg Mashburn said Wednesday that he could not say what charges might be filed against Republican Sen. Ralph Shortey of Oklahoma City, but told The Associated Press that police have presented a report to his office.

"She (the first assistant district attorney) could send it back for more work or file it as is," Mashburn said.

Police in Moore have said they're still investigating the circumstances surrounding a March 9 incident involving Shortey and a teenager. Police did not immediately return a phone call for further comment.

Police on Wednesday released a heavily redacted report that said a juvenile boy was found in a motel room with an adult male on March 9.

The names of those in the room and the boy's age are redacted in the report.

Meanwhile, the Oklahoma Senate imposed sanctions Wednesday on Shortey, voting 43-0 for a resolution that accuses him of "disorderly behavior." Among other things, it removes Shortey from membership and leadership of various Senate committees, bars him from occupying his office and reserved parking spot at the Capitol, blocks his expense allowances and authorship of bills, and revokes his right to have an executive assistant.

Senate officials said Shortey will still receive his $38,400 annual salary as a senator and will be allowed to vote.

Shortey, who was not present in the Senate chamber when the resolution was adopted without opposition, was also not in his Capitol office Wednesday and has not responded to requests for comment.

The resolution by Senate President Pro Tem Mike Schulz, a Republican from Altus, was co-sponsored by 44 of the Senate's 48 senators. In a statement following its passage, Schulz said it was not intended to be "a presumption of guilt or innocence."

"The Oklahoma Senate has full faith that the judicial system will play out appropriately and bring this matter to a lawful conclusion," Schulz said. "This resolution reserves the right of the Oklahoma Senate to pursue further action if more facts come to light."

The chair of the Oklahoma Republican Party, Pam Pollard, released a statement Wednesday condemning Shortey and alleging he is being investigated for a sex crime.

"No person, particularly a child, should be subjected to sex crimes," Pollard's statement said. "While we believe in the right to a fair trial and that all people deserve their day in court, the accusations against Ralph Shortey are in no way in line with the principles of the Oklahoma Republican Party."

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To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than 5:00 PM on March 29, 2017. Applications for Employment are available at the Front Office of Century Tours Inc. located on the Ground Floor of Kanoa Resort, Beach Road, Susupe Village. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

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Slot Technical Supervisor

Responsible for the direct supervision of Slot Technical staff, including but not limited to: discipline, training, shift scheduling, vacation approval, and daily assigned tasks. Assists the Director in the interviewing and hiring process of Slot technicians. Responsible for the technical and physical movement of machines as assigned by the Slots Manager. Responsible for the ordering and replacing of slot machine parts and equipment. Protects company assets. Reports directly to and will perform all additional duties assigned by the Director.

Slot attendant and Cashier staff

Responsible for actively monitoring and providing guest services in their assigned area. This includes but is not limited to: assisting/processing jackpots, machine malfunctions, selling change, redeeming change, buys, checking, involvement in the monitoring and compliance of company policies and procedures, and general guest service responsibilities. Reports directly to and will perform all additional duties assigned by the Slot Manager, Assistant slot Managers and/or their representatives.

Preferred applicants are local and or valid US working status.

E-Male resume to gusnoble@hotmail.com

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Commonwealth Judiciary Administrative Office
Guma' Hustisia, Iimwal Aweewe, House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165, Saipan MP 96950
Telephone (670) 236-9715 Facsimile (670)236-9702

Request for Proposals
17-JUDICIARY-02
Mold Assessment and Eradication Services for the Guma Hustisia, Iimwal Aweewee, House of Justice
Submission Date: March 31, 2017, 3:00 P.M.

The Commonwealth Judicial Branch is soliciting sealed proposals for janitorial services for the Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewee/House of Justice, Saipan, for a period of one (1) year.

Firms or individuals submitting proposals must have a valid CNMI business license and be in compliance with applicable local and federal laws and regulations, including minimum wage requirements.

Proposal procedures shall comply with CNMI Procurement Regulations (NMIAC Title 70, Subchapter 30.3).

The proposal package will be available on **March 17, 2017** at the Cashier's Window, Guma Hustisia, Saipan, or by request faxed to (670) 236-9797 or emailed to John.Villagomez@justice.gov.mp.

A mandatory pre-proposal meeting will be held on **March 27, 2017 at 10:30 a.m., local time** at the Guma Hustisia Law Revision Commission–Law Library. Any questions or inquiries shall be directed to Mr. Gerald Weaver, Building Superintendent, at the pre-proposal meeting and all questions will be answered at the mandatory pre-proposal meeting. Any questions or inquiries not raised at the mandatory pre-proposal meeting shall not be answered and shall be disregarded.

Sealed proposals must be marked **RFP17-JUDICIARY-02** and submitted in one (1) original and three (3) copies at the Cashier's Window, Guma Hustisia, Saipan no later than **March 31, 2017, 3:00 p.m., local time**. Firms or individuals submitting proposals from outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a Notice of Intent to Propose to the Budget and Finance Director no later than March 30, 2017, 3:00 p.m., local time. Notices of Intent may be faxed to (670) 236-9797 or emailed to John.Villagomez@-justice.gov.mp. For proposers located outside the CNMI, one (1) original and three (3) copies of sealed proposals must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **March 31, 2017,** AND the proposal must be received at the Office of the Budget and Finance Director no later than **April 7, 2017**, **close of business**.

The CNMI Government reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, or portions thereof, and waive immaterial defects if to do so would be in the best interest of the CNMI Government. All proposals received shall become the property of the CNMI Government and will not be returned to the proposer.

/s/ Alexandro C. Castro
Chief Justice

/s/ John T. Villagomez
Budget and Finance Director

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

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Asia

ASIAN BRIEFS

Malaysia says it has family consent to decide on Kim's body

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP)—A senior Malaysian police official said Thursday that the family of Kim Jong Nam, who was killed last month, has given consent to Malaysia to decide what to do with his body. Officials say police confirmed Kim's identity using the DNA of one of his children. Kim was holding a diplomatic passport by the name of Kim Chol when he was attacked Feb. 13 at Kuala Lumpur's airport by two women who smeared the banned VX nerve agent on his face. He died within 20 minutes. Deputy national police Chief Noor Rashid Ibrahim said Kim's family will let the government decide what to do with his body. "I was made to understand that they are leaving it to our government to deal with it (body)... yes, they have given their consent," Noor Rashid said. He said any decision will be subject to negotiations between the two countries amid a diplomatic standoff over the killing. Kim was the estranged half brother of North Korea's leader, Kim Jong Un, and relations between Malaysia and North Korea have deteriorated sharply since Kim's death, with each expelling the other's ambassador.

Philippine lawmaker seeks to impeach Duterte

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—A Philippine lawmaker filed an impeachment complaint against President Rodrigo Duterte on Thursday because of the thousands of deaths that have happened in his anti-drug crackdown and for alleged corruption, although the bid faces an uphill battle with Duterte's allies holding an overwhelming majority in Congress. Rep. Gary Alejano said the complaint he filed at the House of Representatives alleges Duterte violated the constitution and betrayed the public trust with his actions, including the crackdown that has sparked extrajudicial killings of drug suspects and because of a failure to declare huge bank deposits as required by law. "We are of the firm belief that President Duterte is unfit to hold the highest office of the land and that impeachment is the legal and constitutional remedy to this situation," said Alejano, who was accused of involvement in a failed coup attempt several years ago. Although opposition lawmakers lack the numbers to impeach Duterte, Alejano said there was a need to stop his "excesses and crimes." More than 260 of the 292 House members belong to a pro-Duterte bloc.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building
P.O. Box 501220 CK Saipan, MP 96950-1220
Telephone: (670) 664-4282
Facsimile: (670) 235-5131

NOTICE

Pursuant to the Open Government Act (1 CMC §9901 *et seq*), the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation ("CUC") Board of Directors hereby informs the general public that the Board will hold a special meeting on **Tuesday, March 21, 2017, at 8:15 a.m.** The meeting will be held at the CUC Conference Room, Room 17, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building to consider the following agenda. Public attendance is welcome.

AGENDA*

I. Preliminary Matters
A. Call to Order
B. Roll Call
C. Adoption of Agenda

II. Attend Oversight Hearing by Senate Committee on Public Utilities, Transportation, and Communications ("PUTC")

III. Adjournment

* Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Agenda maybe modified during the meeting.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building
P.O. Box 501220 CK Saipan, MP 96950-1220
Telephone: (670) 664-4282
Facsimile: (670) 235-5131

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to the Open Government Act (1 CMC §9901 et seq), the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Board of Directors hereby informs the general public that the Personnel Committee will meet on **Wednesday, March 22, 2017, at 10:00 a.m.** The meeting will be held at the CUC Conference Room, Room 17, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building. The following agenda will be considered and public attendance is welcome.

AGENDA*

I. Preliminary Matters
A. Call to Order
B. Roll Call
C. Adoption of Agenda

II. Public Comments**

III. Executive Session***
(Discuss and confer with the Legal Counsel on personnel and legal matters)

IV. Adjournment

* Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Agenda may be modified during the meeting.
** Public comments are limited to 30 minutes and each remark is limited to three minutes. Everyone is welcome to submit written comments.
*** Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Committee members may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
CNMI GOVERNMENT
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Commonwealth Ports Authority hereby gives notice that a Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Tuesday, March 21, 2017, at 9:30 a.m. in the CPA Conference Room located in the Captain George Fleming Building at the Port of Saipan on Saipan. The following items are on the agenda for the above-referenced meeting:

AGENDA

I. **PRELIMINARY MATTERS**
1. Call to Order 3. Adoption of Agenda
2. Roll Call 4. Adoption of Minutes (March 14, 2017)

II. **PUBLIC COMMENT(S)**

III. **CORRESPONDENCES**

IV. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**
1. Financial Affairs Committee 3. Seaport Facilities Committee
2. Airport Facilities Committee 4. Personnel Affairs Committee

V. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

VI. **OLD BUSINESS**
1. Saipan Shipping Co., Inc. – Option to Renew

VII. **NEW BUSINESS**
1. Tandem Skydive – Request for Sublease
2. Resolution – Request for Manpower from Customs and Border Patrol
3. Supplemental Budget Requests:
a. Tinian: Tractor Mower b. Rota: Lighting
c. Saipan: MENELL, LLC.
4. Board Directive: Request for Legal Opinions
5. Personnel Matter: Staff Attorney
6. Bridge Investment Group – Lease Amendment
7. SITA – Airport Hub
8. Draft Concession Regulation
9. Customs and Border Protection/s (CBP) Cross-Border Trade Enhancement Act of 2016

VIII. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**
• Legal Counsel Report: Legal matters/Litigation

IX. **MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS**

X. **ADJOURNMENT**

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony on the above agenda items.

JOSE R. LIFOIFOI March 16, 2017
Chairman, Board of Directors

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY(CPA)
CNMI GOVERNMENT
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950 • Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

INVITATION TO BID
CPA-IFB-005-17

SUBMISSION DATE: MARCH 17, 2017 TIME: 2:00 P.M.

"PROCUREMENT OF ONE TRACTOR AND MOWER FOR TINIAN AIRPORT, TINIAN

DELIVERY OF ONE TRACTOR & MOWER TO TINIAN AIRPORT SHALL BE 120 DAYS OR SOONER AFTER BID AWARD. QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS PROCUREMENT SHALL BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING VIA EMAIL AT atudela@cpa.gov.mp (Alex Tudela/Procurement Officer) PRIOR TO MARCH 10, 2017.

BIDDERS ARE TO SUBMIT ONE ORIGINAL BID AND 2 COPIES IN A SEALED ENVELOPE AND MARKED: "IFB FOR PROCUREMENT OF ONE TRACTOR & MOWER FOR TINIAN AIRPORT". BIDDERS SHALL TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION ALL CHARGES ASSOCIATED WITH PROCUREMENT BEFORE FINALIZING ITS BID PRICE.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CPA PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 40-50-1020 AND 40-50-1025 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CPA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF CPA.

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
CNMI GOVERNMENT
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
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PUBLIC AUCTION
SURPLUS CHAINLINK FENCING
PROJECT NO. CPA-PA-001-17

AUCTION DATE: MARCH 31, 2017 TIME: 2:00 P.M.

LOCATION: COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY SEAPORT BUILDING PREMISE

CHAINLINK FENCING WILL BE SOLD "AS IS" AND "WHERE IS" AND WITHOUT WARRANTY. MINIMUM BID WILL BE ANNOUNCE AT THE OPENING. BIDDERS ARE REQUESTED TO SEE THE MATERIALS BY CONTACTING JERRA CING AT CPA SEAPORT OFFICE AT TELEPHONE NUMBER 664-3560 DURING WORKING HOURS.

CHAIN LINK FENCE SHALL ONLY BE RELEASE TO BIDDERS UPON FULL PAYMENT.

AUCTION IS OPEN TO ALL BIDDERS

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO Date: _____
Executive Director

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY(CPA)
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REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
CPA-RS-001-17

Date of Issuance:	February 24, 2017
Mandatory Pre-proposal Meeting	March 10, 2017
Questions & Clarifications due date	March 10, 2017
Proposal Due Date	March 17, 2017

"Administrative Building Cargo Bay and Dock Floor Slab Repairs West Harbor, Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands."

The Proposal Package and other considerations may be picked up at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA), 2nd Floor, Arrival Building, Saipan International Airport.

All questions and/or clarifications shall be directed in writing to Mr. Chris Tenorio or email at cpa.receptionist@pticom.com with copy to Fermin Flores at ferminf@cpa.gov.mp no later than March 10, 2017.

The provisions of the CPA Procurement Regulations, NMIAC Section §40-50-1020 and §40-50-1025 prohibiting gratuities, kickbacks and contingent fees shall apply.

The CPA reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and waive immaterial defects if to do so would be in the best interest of CPA.

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

World

Germany: We reserve the right to bar Turkish campaigners

BERLIN (AP)—Germany's government reserves the right to impose entry bans on Turkish officials hoping to campaign in the country, though the measure would be a "last resort," Chancellor Angela Merkel's chief of staff said Wednesday.

Peter Altmaier's comments followed days of escalating tensions between Turkey and two European Union nations, Germany and the Netherlands, over Turkish politicians' hopes to campaign there ahead of their country's constitutional referendum next month.

At the European Parliament, EU leaders voiced solidarity with the Netherlands and condemned Nazi parallels drawn by Turkish officials.

But Turkey's president lashed out again at the Dutch—repeating an assertion that they were responsible for the slaughter of Bosnian Muslims in Srebrenica in 1995 and saying that "they have nothing to do with the civilized world; they have nothing to do with the modern world."

Turkey reacted furiously last week to some local German authorities' decisions to block appearances by Turkish ministers, with President Recep Tayyip Erdogan accusing Germany of "Nazi practices." In recent days, Erdogan has labeled the Netherlands as "Nazi remnants" after it prevented two Turkish ministers from making campaign appearances.

Germany's federal government so far has said it won't impose a blanket ban, though the governor of Saarland state—which holds a regional election March 26—said Tuesday she wants to prevent any such rallies there. It appears that none were planned.

Altmaier told the Funke newspaper group that Germany, like every other country, has the right to prevent members of foreign governments from entering. He said he couldn't remember that ever happening in Germany.

Altmaier said that, over the past 10 years, Turkish politicians' campaign appearances in Germany have been in line with German laws. He noted that the Nazi parallels so far have been drawn in Turkey, not in Germany.

But "the fact that the federal government so far hasn't exhausted its possibilities under international law is not a free pass for the future," Altmaier was quoted as saying.

"We will look very carefully at what is defensible and what is not," he added. "An entry ban would be the last resort. We reserve the right to do that."

Speaking at the European Parliament in Strasbourg, France, EU Council President Donald Tusk noted that the Nazi comments followed a dispute over campaign appearances in Rotterdam—a city that was bombed by Nazi Germany in World War II and now has a Moroccan-born mayor.

"If anyone sees fascism in Rotterdam, they are completely detached from reality," Tusk said. He added that "we all show solidarity with the Netherlands."

Jean-Claude Juncker, who heads the EU's executive Commission, said he was "scandalized" by Turkey's Nazi comparisons.

"My home country, Luxembourg, was occupied by the Nazis," he said. "Our people were suffering. My father was forced into the German army together with his three brothers."

"If you are establishing a comparison of that period with our times, this is totally unacceptable," Juncker added. "And the one who is doing this is taking distance from Europe and not trying to enter the European Union."

AP

A Turkish national flag is displayed at an apartment building in the district of Kreuzberg in Berlin, Tuesday, March 14, 2017.

US to confront trade partners at global finance meeting

FRANKFURT, Germany (AP)—U.S. President Donald Trump has vowed to get tough on trade partners like China, Mexico and Germany. Now his Treasury chief, Steven Mnuchin, will get his first opportunity to confront them all in one room.

The meeting of the 20 most powerful economies' finance ministers in Germany this week is likely to be dominated by talk about whether to commit to free trade, as previous meetings have—or implicitly accept that some countries may put up barriers, like tariffs, as Trump has promised.

The officials are also due to discuss their longstanding ban on manipulating currencies to gain economic advantage. Weakening a currency can help a country's exporters, but can also end up dumping its troubles with business costs and competitiveness on its trade partners.

The gathering Friday and Saturday in the southern German resort town of Baden-Baden will help set the tone for international commerce and finance and will give Mnuchin a chance to clarify what the U.S. position is.

The focus will be on the final statement issued jointly by the finance ministers on Saturday.

Last year's gathering of the Group of 20 finance ministers in Chengdu, China, issued a statement opposing "all forms of protectionism." This time, such unequivocal language could be softened to refer to trade that is "open" and "fair," without the absolute opposition to import restrictions to benefit domestic workers.

Trump has repeatedly emphasized that the U.S. needs a tougher approach to trade that would put American workers and companies first. He has already pulled the U.S. out of the proposed Trans-Pacific Partnership agreement with Japan and other Pacific Rim countries and he has started the process to renegotiate the North American Free Trade Agreement with Mexico and Canada, both of whom are G-20 members.

Additionally, Britain is preparing to pull out of the European Union and its free-trade zone that permits cross border business without import and export taxes, or tariffs, after voters chose to leave in a referendum last year.

"We are committed to open and fair trade," said a senior U.S. Treasury official this week, who briefed reporters only on condition of anonymity to discuss the U.S. position ahead of the talks. "That means a trading system that has a level playing field for our firms and our workers globally. We will be encouraging policies that lead to that level playing field."

The official would not comment on what language might be in the finance ministers' final statement this week.

He also did not want to discuss what changes if any the United States might be seeking to the G-20's statement on currency policy but said Mnuchin would press counterparts to live up to their commitments to refrain from manipulation. During the campaign, Trump said he planned to name China a currency manipulator right after he took office. But since taking office, he has not discussed the topic.

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THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL.: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEYS FOR Petitioner

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In the Matter of the Estates of FELIX FITIAL RABAULIMAN AND JOAQUINA MAREHAM RABAULIMAN Deceased	CIVIL ACTION NO.: 17-0075

NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Francisco M. Rabauliman has filed a Petition for Letters of Administration upon the Estates of Felix Fitial Rabauliman and Joaquina Marehan Rabauliman, deceased; and that the said Petition will be heard by the Court on April 20, 2017, at the hour of 9:00a.m.

Notice is also given that all heirs of and persons having claims against the Estate of Felix Fitial Rabauliman and/or Joaquina Mareham Rabauliman, deceased, and to all persons claiming an interest in said Estate, that they shall file such claims with the Clerk of this Court within sixty (60) days from the date of the first publication of this Notice. Copies of such claims should be provided to Michael A. White, Esq., The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, P.O. Box 5222 CHRB, Saipan, MP 96950, Attorney for Petitioner. All claims not so filed shall be forever barred.

DATED: March 14, 2017

/s/ Clefk of Court

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Office (670) 234-3784,
We are located at Marianas Business Plaza
(old Nauru BLDG), 3rd Floor, Room 307

WORLD BRIEFS

Israel strikes Hamas targets after militant fire into Israel

JERUSALEM (AP)—The Israeli military says it has carried out airstrikes against two Hamas targets in the Gaza Strip, in response to a projectile fired from Gaza into southern Israel. No injuries were reported on either side. The military says it carried out the airstrikes early on Thursday in retaliation for the projectile that was fired on Wednesday evening. No militant group has claimed responsibility for the firing. Gaza is ruled by the Islamist militant Hamas group. Since a 50-day war between Israel and Gaza militants in the summer of 2014, a cease-fire has largely held. But militants in Gaza occasionally fire rockets at Israel's south, and Israel usually retaliates. Most rocket fire since the war has come from smaller rivals of Hamas. Israel holds Hamas responsible for attacks from the territory.

Boko Haram releases video showing killing of accused spies

JOHANNESBURG (AP)—An organization that monitors extremist groups says Boko Haram has released a video showing the killing of three accused spies by gunshot and beheading. The SITE Intelligence Group said in a statement Thursday that a fighter in the video uploaded Monday calls those killed "agents" of Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari. SITE points out that while the video opens with images used by so-called "provinces" of the Islamic State group, it comes from Boko Haram's own production unit. SITE says this indicates the group has "some degree of autonomy." One faction of Boko Haram is allied with the Islamic State group. Nigeria's president declared the Boko Haram insurgency "crushed" late last year, but its fighters continue to threaten the vast region around Lake Chad in defiance of a multinational force.

Off The Wall

Woman reunited with pet dog who disappeared 6 months ago

JERSEY CITY, N.J. (AP)—A New Jersey woman has been reunited with her beloved pet dog that skipped out of her apartment six months ago.

Tanya Flowers told *The Jersey Journal* that she spent days handing out hundreds of fliers and contacting animal shelters after her year-old Maltese named Paris vanished last September.

The Jersey City woman feared she wouldn't see the dog again. But just over a week ago, a New York City shelter called to tell her that Paris had been found.

"I wasn't sure if this was a joke or not, because I had received numerous prank phone calls from the fliers I had put up," Flowers said.

Paris supposedly was found walking the streets in North Bergen four months ago, Flowers said. A man who spotted her took her in, but then decided he could no longer care for her and took her to his mother's home in Staten Island.

The mother took the dog to a veterinarian, who discovered a microchip that linked Paris to Flowers.

She said she couldn't be happier to have "her baby" back home.

"When I walked up to the door in Staten Island and saw my dog, I just started screaming," Flowers said. She said Paris immediately began barking and licking her face.

Sax in space: French astronaut delighted with birthday gift

AP

This image posted by French astronaut Thomas Pesquet on Twitter on March 12, 2017, shows him with a saxophone he received for his birthday aboard the International Space Station.

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP)—This is one cosmically cool sax - and saxophone player.

France's musical astronaut Thomas Pesquet is enjoying a special birthday present delivered to him up at the International Space Station. The saxophone arrived in a SpaceX cargo ship on Feb. 23, and his crewmates kept it hidden until his 39th birthday on Feb. 27.

He revealed the birthday surprise this week via Twitter.

"Totally pumped to hear @Thom-astro rock his sax on orbit! Happy belated birthday buddy!" future space station crewmate Jack Fischer tweeted Monday. The NASA astronaut is scheduled to blast off next month from Kazakhstan.

"You might reconsider when you hear the cacophony. Now ace those final exams and get up here!" Pesquet replied Tuesday.

Pesquet has been in orbit since November and has three months remaining in his mission. He's a former pilot for Air France.

This isn't the first time a sax has flown in space. Shuttle astronaut Ronald McNair took one up in 1984, two years before he died aboard the Challenger.

Other out-of-this-world musical instruments: piano keyboard, flute, guitar, bagpipes and even an Australian didgeridoo.

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

German dog-walker has close call with coconut cannon

BERLIN (AP)—A dog walker in the German capital can be thankful he turned out to be a fruitless target after his close call with a coconut cannon. The man was walking in an industrial area on March 1 when he heard a bang and a ball-shaped projectile flew past him, hitting a nearby lamppost. Berlin police say officers called to the scene were surprised to find a large homemade cannon capable of shooting coconuts at high speeds with compressed air. A 23-year-old man told officers he had helped to build the cannon for an art project in the Antarctic and wanted to test it before it was shipped. Police said Wednesday they impounded the cannon and prosecutors are investigating whether it breaches arms control laws.

A pair of coin-operated binoculars stolen in Massachusetts

FLORIDA, Mass. (AP)—Massachusetts State Police are investigating the theft of a pair of 305-pound, coin-operated, binocular-like devices that gave tourists spectacular views along the state's famous Mohawk Trail. The scenic viewers are mounted on metal posts that are often found at inspiring vistas. Police said Wednesday they think the bronze and cast iron viewers were cut from their wooden platform next to the Eastern Summit gift shop in the town of Florida sometime between February 27 and March 7. Police say the devices, manufactured by Tower Optical, are considered collectibles because so few are made. Tourism officials say the views from the Eastern Summit extend 65 miles on a clear day.

Stolen 70-pound popcorn ball, valued at $700, returned

CHAGRIN FALLS, Ohio (AP)—Police say a 70-pound popcorn ball worth hundreds of dollars that was swiped from a suburban Cleveland shop where it was being auctioned has been returned. The oversized snack dyed red, white and blue was taken from outside the Chagrin Falls Popcorn Shop over the weekend. But it was found intact in front of the shop Wednesday. Police had earlier asked residents to keep an eye out for it. Shop owner Dewey Forward had told Cleveland.com that the popcorn ball could be returned with no questions asked and no charges filed. It was created for a New Year's Eve popcorn ball drop and is being auctioned this week, with the proceeds slated to go toward renovations of a town hall. It's valued at $700.

Trooper takes abandoned puppies into custody and adopts them

ATLANTA (AP)—A Georgia State Patrol trooper took three canine vagrants into custody - and then he and a few of his colleagues adopted the abandoned puppies as their own. The Georgia Department of Public Safety posted on its Facebook page Tuesday that trooper Jordan Ennis found three puppies while patrolling a southwest Atlanta subdivision on Monday. He was driving in the abandoned subdivision known as a dumping site for stolen cars when he spotted the puppies in a briar patch. The agency says Ennis and his police dog, Tek, brought the puppies into headquarters. They were promptly adopted by Ennis and three members of the headquarters staff. The agency says Ennis suspected no one was coming for the puppies, prompting the adoption. The puppies are a mix of unknown breeds.

Free steaks for 15K students if N. Kentucky

CINCINNATI (AP)—A Cincinnati-area restaurateur says he'll buy steak dinners for Northern Kentucky University's 15,000 students if the men's basketball team wins its first-ever NCAA Tournament game by beating No. 6-ranked Kentucky. Jeff Ruby says the promise could cost him and his steakhouse big if the underdog Norse topple the Wildcats, who are seeded second in the South Regional, on Friday in Indianapolis. But, he says it's important to support hometown organizations and he sees Northern Kentucky as an asset to the area. The school is a first-timer in the NCCA Tournament. It won the Horizon League championship and the league's automatic bid in its first year of eligibility for the tournament. The one-time Division II power made the jump to Division I five years ago.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW-17-IFB-009

PINE DRIVE ROAD AND DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT, SAIPAN

Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres, and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) is soliciting sealed bids for the Pine Drive Road and Drainage Improvement, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after **March 3, 2017** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of One Hundred **Dollars ($100.00)** is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Teasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations currently in effect."

Breach of Ethical Standard

- *Gratuities.* It shall be a breach of ethical standards for any person to offer, give or agree to give any employee or former employee, or for any employee or former employee to solicit, demand, accept, or agree to accept from another person, a gratuity or an offer of employment in connection with any decision, approval, disapproval, recommendation, preparation of any part of a program requirement or a purchase request, influencing the content of any specification or procurement standard, rendering of advice, investigation, auditing or in any other advisory capacity in any proceeding or application, request for ruling, determination, claim or controversy, or other particular matter, pertaining to any program requirement or a contract or subcontract or to any solicitation or proposal therefor. **NMIAC Section 70-30.3-725 (a)**
- *Kickbacks.* It shall be a breach of ethical standards for any payment, gratuity or offer of employment to be made by or on behalf of a subcontractor under a contract to the prime contractor or higher tier subcontractor or any person associated therewith as an inducement for the award of a subcontractor or order. **NMIAC 70-30.3-725 (b)**
- *Contingent fees.* It shall be a breach of ethical standards for a person to be retained, or to retain a person, to solicit or secure government contracts upon an agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage or contingent fee, except for retention of bona fide employees or bona fide established commercial selling agencies for the purpose of securing business. **NMIAC 70-30.3-730**

There will be a **Pre-bid** Conference for this project on **March 21, 2017** 9:00 a.m. local time at the Department of Public Works Conference Room 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center Office, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **April 4, 2017** to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.
The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgment of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) Calendar days before the scheduled bid opening.**

Sealed bids must be marked **"DPW-17-IFB-009"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, April 7, 2017**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, April 7, 2017**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **April 7, 2017** and the BID documents must be received at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **April 20, 2017**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, at **10:00 a.m. local time, April 24, 2017**. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **10:00 a.m. local time, on April 7, 2017**.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars **($25,000.00)** a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney GeneraL Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission.** Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations **§70-30.3-245**. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

1) Cash
2) US Gov't Securities
3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is **One Hundred Twenty (120) calendar days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at the rate of Three Hundred Dollars **(US$300.00)** for each and every day the work is delayed beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

JAMES A. ADA
Secretary of Public Works

HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement & Supply

Science & Technology

Facebook says its data can't be used for 'surveillance'

NEW YORK (AP)—Facebook is prohibiting developers from using the massive amount of data it collects on users for surveillance. This includes using such data to monitor activists and protesters.

The company said Monday that it is making an existing policy "explicit." Facebook says it has already taken action against developers who created or marketed tools meant to be used for surveillance. It says it wants to "be sure everyone understands the underlying policy and how to comply."

Last fall, the American Civil Liberties Union obtained records that Facebook and its Instagram service provided user data access to Geofeedia, which develops a monitoring product marketed to law enforcement. The ACLU said at the time that while both Instagram and Facebook cut off access after finding out about this, Facebook did not have a "public policy specifically prohibiting developers" from taking user data for surveillance.

The new prohibition states that developers - who get access to user data from Facebook to create apps - should protect "the information you receive from us against unauthorized access, use, or disclosure. For example, don't use data obtained from us to provide tools that are used for surveillance."

The ACLU report says the data the companies provided to Geofeedia included only public posts, not those that users restricted to just friends or in some other way. But such access to Facebook data is still valuable to third parties because it would be very difficult to collect and comb through all the stuff on their own.

According to the ACLU, Facebook had provided Geofeedia with access to a data feed called the "Topic Feed API," which is supposed to be a tool for advertisers. But Geofeedia could use it to obtain a feed of public Facebook posts that mentioned a specific topic, place or event - for example, "monitor hashtags used by activists and allies, or target activist groups as 'overt threats,'" Matt Cagle, attorney for the ACLU of Northern California, wrote last October. Facebook terminated this access nearly a month earlier after being notified about it by the ACLU.

Russian agents, hackers charged in massive Yahoo breach

WASHINGTON (AP)—Two Russian intelligence agents and a pair of hired hackers have been charged in a devastating criminal breach at Yahoo that affected at least a half billion user accounts, the Justice Department said Wednesday in bringing the first case of its kind against current Russian government officials.

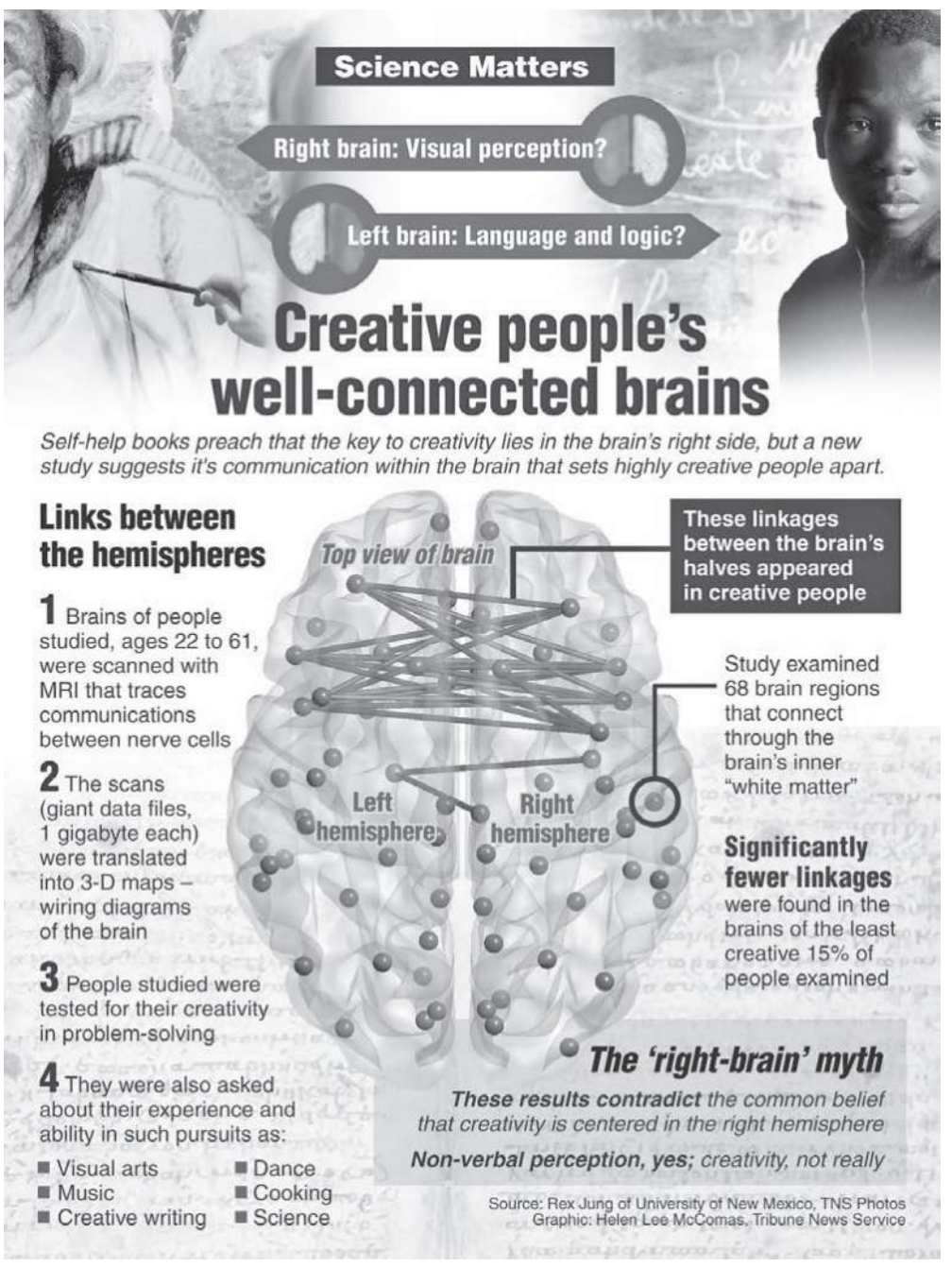
In a scheme that prosecutors say blended intelligence gathering with old-fashioned financial greed, the four men targeted the email accounts of Russian and U.S. government officials, Russian journalists and employees of financial services and other private businesses, U.S. officials said.

Using in some cases a technique known as "spearphishing" to dupe Yahoo users into thinking they were receiving legitimate emails, the hackers broke into at least 500 million accounts in search of personal information and financial data such as gift card and credit card numbers, prosecutors said.

"We will not allow individuals, groups, nation states or a combination of them to compromise the privacy of our citizens, the economic interests of our companies or the security of our country," said Acting Assistant Attorney General Mary McCord, the head of the Justice Department's national security division.

The case, announced amid continued U.S. intelligence agency skepticism of their Russian counterparts, comes as U.S. authorities investigate Russian interference through hacking in the 2016 presidential election. Officials said those investigations are separate.

One of the Yahoo-related defendants, a Canadian and Kazakh national named Karim Baratov, has been taken into custody in Canada. Another, Alexsey Belan, is on the list of the FBI's most wanted cyber criminals and has been indicted multiple times in the U.S. It's not clear whether he or the other two defendants, Dmitry Dokuchaev and Igor Sushchin, will ever step foot in an American courtroom since there's no extradition treaty with Russia.


Science Matters
Right brain: Visual perception?
Left brain: Language and logic?
Creative people's well-connected brains
Self-help books preach that the key to creativity lies in the brain's right side, but a new study suggests it's communication within the brain that sets highly creative people apart.
Links between the hemispheres
Top view of brain
These linkages between the brain's halves appeared in creative people
1 Brains of people studied, ages 22 to 61, were scanned with MRI that traces communications between nerve cells
2 The scans (giant data files, 1 gigabyte each) were translated into 3-D maps – wiring diagrams of the brain
3 People studied were tested for their creativity in problem-solving
4 They were also asked about their experience and ability in such pursuits as:
Visual arts
Music
Creative writing
Dance
Cooking
Science
Left hemisphere
Right hemisphere
Study examined 68 brain regions that connect through the brain's inner "white matter"
Significantly fewer linkages were found in the brains of the least creative 15% of people examined
The 'right-brain' myth
These results contradict the common belief that creativity is centered in the right hemisphere
Non-verbal perception, yes; creativity, not really
Source: Rex Jung of University of New Mexico, TNS Photos
Graphic: Helen Lee McComas, Tribune News Service

TECH Q&A: Telling phone apps to use free Wi-Fi

By STEVE ALEXANDER
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

Q: I'm on a low-usage monthly phone plan. As a result, I'd love to be able to set most of my smartphone apps to use only free Wi-Fi internet connections, and to allow only a few apps to access my cellular connection. But I can't find any way to do it on my Samsung Galaxy S5 phone. Is there an app that will let me control Wi-Fi and cellular connections for my other apps?—John Williamsson, Manning, S.C.

A: There is such an app. What's interesting is why there needs to be one.

This is a case of an operating system manufacturer deciding how much control to give phone users. Within the Google Android operating system used by your Galaxy S5 phone, there is no way to "turn off" an individual app's ability to use the cellular network and force it to rely on Wi-Fi connections instead. Apple made the opposite decision with its iOS operating system; iPhone users can control an app's cellular or Wi-Fi use.

It's worth noting that Android does offer users some less-specific controls over a phone app's cellular data use, such as limiting total cellular data consumption in a month, or preventing apps from updating themselves when not in use. For details, see tinyurl.com/gusolrt.

And in some cases, Android app makers will let you restrict their app to Wi-Fi only, or at least reduce its cellular data consumption. The Netflix app allows you to restrict video streaming to Wi-Fi only, and the YouTube video app and the Pandora music app let you minimize their use of cellular data, although you can't turn it off. (See "Keep streaming video and music apps from gobbling too much data" at tinyurl.com/j363fx7).

But to get the same functionality as iPhone users, you need an Android app called NetGuard. It will enable you to decide which of your phone's individual apps can use only cellular or only Wi-Fi connections. While NetGuard is free to download from the Google Play store (see tinyurl.com/pn7qauw for details), users must then pay to use its various controls.

Q: As a substitute teacher, I need to access an education website that deals with "absence management." I can reach this website with my tablet and laptop computers, but not with my desktop PC, which gets a "forbidden" notification. I've tried emptying the browser's cache memory, typing the website address instead of using a bookmark and switching browsers, but nothing helps. What can I do?—Laurie Hauge, Minneapolis

A: Some legitimate software on your desktop PC is probably interfering with Windows, and generating the "Access Denied/Forbidden" error.

This is usually caused by advertising removal programs, security software, antivirus software, Web accelerators (software that connects to a special internet server to download data faster) or download assistants. If you have any of these programs, try turning them off to see whether the "forbidden" error disappears. If there's no way to turn off a program, uninstall it.

If that doesn't work, the problem could be caused by a Windows file called "hosts," which maintains a list of major internet servers. Fixing the hosts file involves copying some data from a Microsoft website to your desktop PC (see tinyurl.com/hpl7w9x).

Hackers hijack Twitter accounts over Turkish diplomatic feud

LONDON (AP)—Hundreds of Twitter accounts have been hijacked amid the ongoing diplomatic feud between Turkey and two European nations, Germany and the Netherlands.

It's not clear how many accounts were taken over altogether but a slew of them, ranging from celebrities to government agencies, suddenly began issuing anti-German and anti-Dutch abuse in Turkish late Tuesday.

"This is a small Ottoman slap," the swastika-studded messages read in part, blasting "Nazi Germany" and "Nazi Holland."

The Twitter hijackings are the latest in a campaign of online vandalism that has followed from days of escalating tensions between Turkey and its European partners. Politicians from Turkey's ruling party have demanded to campaign in Europe ahead of their country's constitutional referendum next month. The demands have met with refusals and controversy, which has devolved into angry nationalist chest-thumping, a display mirrored online by a campaign of low-level web defacements. On Monday alone several hundred websites were hit at a single Dutch internet hosting provider, Versio, according to an employee who posted a message to the company's help forum .

Forbes, UNICEF, Duke University, Amnesty International and Starbucks Argentina were among those who appear to have had their Twitter accounts hijacked late Tuesday. Tennis star Boris Becker and the official account of soccer club Borussia Dortmund were also taken over, according to German news agency dpa.

Life & Style

Professor's talk on South Korea a hit in home-office comedy

By FOSTER KLUG,
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—You can see the exact moment professor Robert Kelly knows his live interview has imploded.

As Kelly speaks from his home office via Skype with BBC about the just-ousted South Korean president, his eyes dart left as he watches on his computer screen as his young daughter parades into the room behind him. Her jaunty entrance resembles the exuberant march of the Munchkins celebrating the Wicked Witch's death in the "The Wizard of Oz."

And that was just the opening act in a series of mounting mini-calamities—the BBC presenter later called it "a perfect piece of physical comedy"—that has made the Friday interview a viral hit: The BBC estimates 100 million views. Kelly on Wednesday called the interview "a very public family blooper, nothing more," but it has created a new, bewildering level of celebrity for the well-known though low-key analyst and frequent commentator on the Koreas for foreign media.

The following is a post-mortem of a live interview disaster or, depending on your point of view, a nugget of internet comedy gold:

AP

Robert Kelly, right, a political science professor at Pusan National University, waits for a press conference with his wife Jung-a Kim, left, and children James and Marion, at the university in Busan, South Korea, Wednesday, March 15, 2017.

THE TODDLER

Just as Kelly, a political science professor at Pusan National University in the port city of Busan, says "... the question is, How do democracies respond to those scandals," the unlocked door to his home office pops open and in prances Marion, 4, wearing a yellow sweater and glasses, her hair in pigtails.

Her walk—elbows raised like chicken wings, head thrown back and rocking side to side, knees high—suggests a drum major leading a marching band down Main Street.

Clearly, all is right with her world.

Dad—not so much.

Kelly keeps facing forward, but his eyes shift to the left at Skype's picture-within-picture on his computer screen. The BBC presenter, James Menendez, points out the obvious: "I think one of your children has just walked in."

When she arrives at his elbow, Kelly continues to face the camera but attempts to use his left arm to push her, gently but firmly, back.

Just as Menendez attempts to ask whether the removal from office of President Park Geun-hye will influence relations between the rival Koreas more trouble looms in the doorway.

THE BABY

James, 9-months-old, at the helm of a rolling walker, stops briefly and surveys the scene.

A decision quickly settled in favor of forward motion, James propels his walker into the room, legs churning, arms lifted high, like one of those "dancing" air-balloons that shimmy in front of used car shops.

Sister, rejected by dad, leans back onto a bed with books piled on it. Some of the books tumble to the floor.

Kelly attempts to soldier on with the interview. "I would be surprised if they do," he says to anyone still focused on his analysis of whether inter-Korean relations will change.

James coos and gurgles as he nears pops and sis.

MOM

In a flash, the next entrant to a scene the Marx Brothers would have appreciated slides sideways into the room on her socks, banging the door into a bookcase.

Kelly's wife, Jung-a Kim, momentarily fixes her eyes on the computer screen before shifting with laser-like focus on the escaped children.

She turns on a dime and drops down. As her knees bang on the floor, Kelly closes his eyes for much longer than a typical blink. "Pardon me," he says.

Kim gets her right hand on the baby's walker, her left hand on her daughter and, with a double-yanking motion, begins to back out of the room, still crouched down. More books bang onto the floor.

"My apologies," Kelly says, bowing his head and laughing nervously.

The presenter attempts another question—"What does this mean for the region?"—just as mom lets go of the baby walker, keeping the squirming daughter still in her grip, opens the door and backs out, dragging both kids with her.

Kelly again closes his eyes for a long beat. Another "My apologies." Some voices of childlike complaint from the hallway. "Sorry," Kelly murmurs.

Mom then appears again, on her knees. She stretches out and pulls the door closed, causing a map on the wall to billow slightly. As one of the children lets loose a cry of anger and frustration from the other room, Kelly attempts to continue his answer: "South Korea's policy toward North Korea ..."

THE AFTERMATH

Menendez said in a follow-up interview that the moment made the Kellys "the most famous family in the world," but the professor says it's been a bit overwhelming. He turned off his phone for a while and stopped posting on social media.

"We understand why people find it enjoyable," Kelly told Menendez, Kim and their children by his side in the same room as the first video. "It's sort of catching a regular family off guard."

Kim said it has been "a little bit stressful."

Kelly said the family was "pretty uncomfortable" with online comments that assumed Kim was the nanny.

He also addressed another online theory—that the reason he didn't help corral the kids himself was because he wasn't wearing any pants or was in his pajama bottoms.

"Yes," he said, laughing, "I was wearing pants."

Vogue launches in the Arab world with bold mission and style

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP)—Vogue launched its newest international edition this month, targeting a niche audience in the Middle East that is fashion conscious, style-driven and wealthy. If its debut is anything to go by, the magazine promises to be bold, representative and deferential.

The 22nd international edition of Vogue featured on its cover American supermodel Gigi Hadid, whose father is Palestinian, wearing an embellished, mesh veil covering half her face. With one eye peering out from beneath the veil, the magazine's cover words aimed readers directly at its mission: "Reorienting perceptions."

At the helm of Vogue's nascent project is Deena Aljuhani Abdulaziz; a fashion-forward mother of three and Saudi royal who describes herself as "ambitious".

"I don't want Vogue Arabia to just be another regional magazine. I definitely want it to be a global one as well, especially in this political climate. I think it's very important," she told The Associated Press from her office in Dubai's Design District.

Through its range of features and shoots, the magazine attempts to cater to a wide and diverse audience of Arab women, whose varying takes on personal style and modesty cannot be defined by one trope or fashion statement.

While not intentionally provocative, there are images of women in backless gowns and skirts that end above the knee. There are also artful shots of women in headscarves, though not necessarily worn in the parameters of the Islamic hijab.

In Hadid's cover shot, for example, the veil reveals a hint of bronzed shoulder.

"We aren't trying to make a giant political statement but we do think that we can help contribute to conversation" said Shashi Menon, founder of Nervora, which published Vogue Arabia in partnership with Conde Naste.

"We want to be—delicate is the wrong word, but we want to be cognizant on how we are speaking to and with women from this region and that means being understanding," he said.

Vogue Arabia's strongest foothold is—as its name suggests— in the oil-rich countries of the Arabian Peninsula, where modern malls and a growing art scene are part of a wider push to get in on the multi-billion-dollar-a-year global fashion industry, which is currently dominated by the U.S., Europe and Japan.

Vogue Arabia's target audience is well-traveled and has long had access to fashion magazines, both local and international, including of course American Vogue.

Vogue Arabia launched digitally first last fall, but its print edition went out this month with 35,000 copies distributed across the major cities of the Gulf, as well as in Cairo, Beirut and select salons and hotels in North Africa. It was not, however, in newsstands in conservative Saudi Arabia.

Menon says the expectation isn't that Vogue Arabia will somehow replace American Vogue or Vogue Paris, but that it will provide for the first time an edition that directly speaks to a Middle Eastern audience in a local voice. It's also the first Vogue edition for an entire region, rather than for a single country.

Inside its glossy pages, Vogue Arabia capitalizes on the breadth of culture and character of the Middle East's 22 Arabic-speaking countries. For its March issue, that meant features on an arts initiative in the Saudi coastal city of Jeddah, an interview with the Egyptian sisters behind the purse brand Okhtein and a high-glamour shoot in Paris by Sudanese stylist Azza Yousif.

‘Beauty and the Beast’ aims to enchant a new generation

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)—In 1991, Disney struck gold with “Beauty and the Beast.” The film enchanted audiences and critics alike, and raked in several hundred million dollars along the way, but also upended expectations of what an animated film could be.

Not only did the New York Times theater critic controversially call it the best Broadway musical score of the year (spurring an actual Broadway show three years later), it also was the first-ever animated film to be nominated for a best picture Oscar.

Over a quarter century later, the legacy endures but times have changed, and there’s a new “Beauty and the Beast” on the block. Out March 17, the film is a lavish live-action reimagining of the “tale as old as time” with state-of-the-art CG splendor, Howard Ashman and Alan Menken’s classic songs and score (and a few new tunes with Tim Rice), and a modern social consciousness.

The film stars “Harry Potter’s” Emma Watson as the bookish heroine Belle, who yearns for adventure outside of the confines of her “small provincial town” and “Downton Abbey” alum Dan Stevens as the cursed and cold Beast. Their supporting cast is a coterie of veterans, including Kevin Kline (Maurice), Emma Thompson (Mrs. Potts), Ian McKellen (Cogsworth), Audra McDonald (Madame Garderobe), Stanley Tucci (Maestro Cadenza) and Ewan McGregor (Lumiere).

That Disney’s specific vision for “Beauty and the Beast” has lived on is no surprise, and its 13-year run on Broadway helped keep it in the cultural consciousness.

“It’s genuinely romantic, a genuinely beautiful story,” Menken said of its lasting appeal.

And then there’s the nostalgia aspect. For many (including the cast), this was a seminal childhood film.

Luke Evans (Gaston) saw it when he was 12, Josh Gad (LeFou) when he was 10, and Gugu Mbatha-Raw (Plumette) when she was 8. Suffice it to say, they all knew the lyrics to the songs before they were cast.

The remake is also part of the Walt Disney Company’s ongoing strategy to mine their vaults for animated fare worthy of live-action re-creations. “Mulan,” ‘’The Little Mermaid,” ‘’Aladdin” and “The Lion King” are just a few already in the works.

But that doesn’t mean there weren’t worthy updates to be made in “Beauty and the Beast.” Director Bill Condon (“Dreamgirls”) delighted in rooting the story in a specific time and place—1740 France—and adorning every last corner of the production with Rococo and Baroque details.

Technology advances allowed the production to render household objects that look believable when brought to life. The Beast’s look, meanwhile, was achieved by combining performance capture and MOVA, a facial capture system, meaning Stevens throughout production walked on stilts and sported a prosthetic muscle suit with a gray body suit on top. (Yes, he danced in this getup).

The characters are more fleshed out as well. The Beast gets a backstory. As does Belle, whose independence looked refreshingly radical in ‘91 and goes even further here.

“She’s a 21st century Disney princess. She’s not just a pretty girl in a dress,” Evans said. “She’s fearless and needs no one to validate her.”

That the woman behind the character is also the UN women’s goodwill ambassador only adds to its resonance.

“I think Emma’s an incredible role model for young girls, as somebody who has two daughters but also has a young son who I want to grow up with these values instilled,” Stevens said.

And, in a tribute to Ashman, who died of complications relating to AIDS at age 40 before the ‘91 film came out, the production even unearthed forgotten lyrics from his notes, which they’ve added to two songs in the new film—”Gaston” and “Beauty and the Beast.”

While many of the beats, and even lines, remain the same as in ‘91, the world looks more diverse from the very first shots. Faces of all races can be seen both in the grand castle and the country town.

Angelina Jolie defends UN, decries ‘tide of nationalism’

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Goodwill Ambassador American actress Angelina Jolie, left, sits next to United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Italian Filippo Grandi, during The annual lecture of the Sergio Vieira de Mello Foundation at the European headquarters of the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland, Wednesday, March 15, 2017. AP

GENEVA (AP)—Angelina Jolie has made a strong defense of the United Nations, saying the world body, as “imperfect” as it is, needs reform but also support.

The American actress and special envoy for the U.N. refugee agency decried a “rising tide of nationalism masquerading as populism, and the re-emergence of policies encouraging fear and hatred of others” during a speech at the U.N. in Geneva on Wednesday.

Saying she was speaking as a “proud American” and “an internationalist,” Jolie said some politicians were elected “partly on the basis of dismissing international institutions and agreements.”

She didn’t mention President Donald Trump, amid concerns that the U.S. administration could cut crucial funding for the United Nations.

“We have to recognize the damage we do when we undermine the U.N., or use it selectively, or not at all,” Jolie said. She said “there is not a single humanitarian appeal anywhere in the world that is funded by even by half of what is required.”

Jolie addressed a ceremony honoring Sergio Vieira de Mello, the U.N. envoy to Iraq who died in a 2003 bombing attack in Baghdad, and cited his faith in the institution despite its shortcomings.

“The U.N. is an imperfect organization because we are imperfect. It is not separate from us,” she said, adding that de Mello believed it should be “more decisive, less bureaucratic,” but “he never said it was pointless and he never threw in the towel.”

‘Matrix’ reboot? Some say studio should choose another pill

NEW YORK (AP)—A reboot of “The Matrix” is said to be the works, but many fans would rather see Warner Bros. choose a different pill.

The Hollywood Reporter on Tuesday reported that Warner Bros. is developing a relaunch of the 1999 film, which spawned two far less beloved sequels. Any new “Matrix” film is in such an early stage that it may—like countless other projects in development—never amount to anything. Warner Bros. declined to share any details on its plans on Wednesday.

But the report was enough to stoke a backlash on social media over any tampering with the Wachowskis’ trench-coated, slow-motion bullet-flying science-fiction creation. Reboots, you may have noticed, are a tad common for Hollywood these days. And while repaving old favorites often causes consternation among fans, the possibility of a new “Matrix” touched a nerve.

On one hand, the dystopian vision of “The Matrix,” about a rebellion against machine-controlled rule, would seem ideal for today. After all, many have recently suggested the world has tipped into a simulated reality of its own. The time may be ripe for the deep “rabbit-hole” diving Laurence Fishburne’s Morpheus advocated.

Also, initially wounded fan feelings have been known to soften under the right conditions. Get the right talent involved, secure the necessary blessings, talk about “mining” the story’s boundless “universe” and you could—come opening weekend—have a “Matrix” version of the “The Force Awakens” on your hands.

But there’s also reason to believe moviegoers are increasingly saying no to cash-grab reboots. The reasons for their demises were various, but last summer was a graveyard of underwhelming redos, including “Alice Through the Looking Glass,” ‘’Independence Day: Resurgence” and “Ghostbusters.”

Ivana Trump writing memoir about her children with Donald

NEW YORK (AP)—Ivana Trump, the first wife of President Donald Trump, is writing a memoir that will focus on the couple’s three children.

“Raising Trump” will be published Sept. 12, Gallery Books told The Associated Press on Wednesday. According to Gallery, Ivana Trump is writing a story of “motherhood, strength and resilience” and also will reflect on her “childhood in communist Czechoslovakia, her escape from the regime and relocation to New York, her whirlwind romance, and her great success as a businesswoman.”

“As her former husband takes his place as the 45th president of the United States, his children have also been thrust into the media spotlight—but it is Ivana who raised them and proudly instilled in them what she believes to be the most important life lessons: loyalty, honesty, integrity and drive,” the statement reads.

Donald and Ivana Trump divorced in 1992 amid revelations that Donald Trump had been having an affair with Marla Maples, who became his second wife. (They divorced in 1999 and six years later Donald Trump married Melania Knauss.) Gallery is calling the book “non-political,” and it’s also unlikely to be critical of the president, whose candidacy Ivana Trump supported. Her divorce from him included a nondisclosure agreement, and her children with him—Donald Jr., Ivanka and Eric—are close to their father and are contributing memories to the book.

The three younger Trumps said in a statement that they were “excited” about “Raising Trump” and called Ivana an “amazing mom, teacher and inspiration to all of us.” Ivana Trump said in a statement that “Raising Trump” was in part a response to compliments she receives about her children.

“I was a tough and loving mother who taught them the value of a dollar, not to lie, cheat or steal, respect for others, and other life lessons that I’ll share now in ‘Raising Trump,’ along with unfiltered personal stories about Don, Eric, and Ivanka from their early childhood to becoming the ‘first sons and daughter,’” she said.

Ivana Trump has written books before, including “The Best Is Yet to Come: Coping with Divorce and Enjoying Life Again” and the novel “For Love Alone,” which led to a legal battle with her ex-husband. In 1992, Donald Trump sued Ivana for $25 million, claiming the novel was based on their marriage and violated the nondisclosure portion of the divorce decree. Ivana Trump countersued over other parts of the divorce agreement and, in 1993, the two settled their differences.

Gallery is part of Simon & Schuster, which under its Threshold Editions imprint published Donald Trump’s campaign book “Crippled America,” released in paperback as “Great Again.”

Canadian prime minister, Ivanka Trump catch Broadway musical

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Trump tweets dig at Snoop Dogg over mock shooting in video

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Donald Trump is firing back at Snoop Dogg days after the release of a music video in which the rapper points a toy gun at a clown dressed like Trump and pulls the trigger. Trump tweeted Wednesday morning: "Can you imagine what the outcry would be if @SnoopDogg, failing career and all, had aimed and fired the gun at President Obama? Jail time!" The video is for a remixed version of the song "Lavender," by Canadian group BADBADNOTGOOD featuring Snoop Dogg. In it, Snoop Dogg shoots the Trump clown with a gun that releases a flag with the word "bang." The rapper was also criticized over the video by Florida Sen. Marco Rubio, who lost to Trump in last year's Republican presidential primary campaign.

Angelina Jolie to teach course at London School of Economics

LONDON (AP)—Angelina Jolie is set to teach a master's course at the prestigious London School of Economics this fall as a visiting professor. The London Evening Standard reports the 41-year-old actress and filmmaker gave a preview of her class Tuesday with a lecture at the school's Centre for Women, Peace and Security. She told the newspaper before the lecture that she was "a little nervous," but she hoped to do well because the talk was "very important" to her. The Standard reports that Jolie will be lecturing in an unpaid post in September as part of a master's program on women, peace and security. Jolie's humanitarian work is well-known. She serves as a special envoy of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

67 paintings stolen in 2014 seized in Austria

BERLIN (AP)—The European police agency says that 67 stolen paintings have been recovered from an apartment in Vienna more than two years after they were stolen from a villa in a suburb of the Austrian capital. Europol said in a statement Wednesday that the paintings, worth approximately 2.5 million euros ($2.65 million) and including works by Oskar Kokoschka and Carl Moll, were seized in cooperation with Austria's state and federal criminal police offices. Viennese police spokesman Patrick Maierhofer said it's believed "that an internationally operating gang from eastern Europe" was behind the heist in 2014, the Austria Press Agency reported. Europol said that four paintings worth 50,000 euros ($53,100) are still missing.

Prince's ex-wife opens up about 1996 death of couple's baby

Prince's ex-wife is opening up about the couple's son, who was born with a rare genetic disorder in 1996 and died just six days later. Mayte Garcia writes in a new memoir excerpted in People magazine that baby Amiir was born with Pfeiffer syndrome type 2, a disorder that causes skeletal abnormalities. She says the baby struggled to breathe and underwent multiple procedures before his death. Garcia tells People she doesn't think Prince ever got over the baby's death. She says, "I don't know how anybody can get over it. I know I haven't." Garcia and Prince married in 1996 and divorced in 2000. Prince died last April from an accidental overdose.

National Enquirer owner buys Us Weekly for $100 million

NEW YORK (AP)—The publisher of Rolling Stone magazine is selling celebrity magazine Us Weekly for $100 million to the owner of the National Enquirer tabloid. In a press release, American Media Inc., which also owns Star, OK! and Men's Fitness, did not say how much it is paying for Us Weekly. Two people with knowledge of the situation said it was a $100 million deal. They would not speak on the record because the companies are private. Wenner Media bought Us Weekly in 1985. It has been rumored that the magazine was up for sale. Gus Wenner, the head of digital at Wenner Media, said in an emailed statement that the sale lets the company pay down debt and invest in growth initiatives. Rolling Stone got hit with a $3 million libel verdict in November in the aftermath of its retracted story about a University of Virginia gang rape. Wenner sold a 49 percent stake in the music magazine in September. The company also owns Men's Journal.

Rock Hall to celebrate 50 years of Rolling Stone magazine

CLEVELAND (AP)—The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame will celebrate 50 years of Rolling Stone magazine in a new exhibit set to open this spring in Cleveland. The Rock Hall says the exhibit will explore the magazine's archive of award-winning music and political and cultural reporting. It will open in conjunction with the release of the book, "50 Years of Rolling Stone." The exhibit will include rarely heard stories, original manuscripts, music reviews and audio interviews that spotlight the artists, writers and others who shared a special partnership with the magazine that debuted in 1967. Highlights of cover images reaching back to rock 'n' roll pioneers such as Elvis Presley and Chuck Berry also will be included in the exhibit that opens May 5. It will close in November 2017.

AP

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau speaks to the audience before the start of the Broadway musical "Come From Away," in New York, on Wednesday, March 15, 2017.

NEW YORK (AP)—Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau—along with first daughter Ivanka Trump as a guest—welcomed a new musical that celebrates Canadian compassion and openness to international travelers following the Sept. 11 attacks.

Trudeau and Trump and some 120 ambassadors from around the world attended the show "Come From Away" on Wednesday night at the Gerald Schoenfeld Theatre, in a city where the bulk of the 3,000 people on 9/11 died.

The musical is set in the small Newfoundland town of Gander, which opened its arms and homes to some 7,000 airline passengers diverted there when the U.S. government shut down its airspace. In a matter of a few hours, the town was overwhelmed by 38 planeloads of travelers from dozens of countries and religions, yet locals went to work in their kitchens and cleaned up spare rooms.

In remarks before the show, Trudeau got on the stage and said he was pleased that, "the world gets to see what it is to lean on each other and be there for each other through the darkest times."

The show got a standing ovation, including from Trump, who sat near Trudeau, his wife and U.N. ambassador Nikki Haley. Also in attendance was Jean Chretien, a former Canadian prime minister, and the mayor of Gander. Trump was seen clapping along happily as the band played at the curtain call.

Widow fears that wearing a wig is false advertising

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 57-year-old lady. I have been a widow 23 years and chose not to date while raising my daughter, who is now 26. I would now like to meet a nice man to spend time with, but I suffer from an affliction many older women deal with—alopecia. My hair is very thin, but with wigs and makeup, I look attractive enough.

I'm afraid I'm being deceptive when I meet a man like that. When is the right time to tell a man what he sees is not what he gets?

EMBARRASSED IN OHIO

DEAR EMBARRASSED: The logical time to tell someone would be at the point you are becoming intimate enough that he would be running his hands through your hair.

DEAR ABBY: My mother married my father in 1960 when she was barely 16. She was the mother of two children before age 18. My father was older, controlling, abusive and unkind to her.

She wrote to your mother for advice in the 1960s, saying he still carried a photo of his old girlfriend in his wallet and how much it hurt her. Your mother's advice to her was to "grow up." In light of how the times have changed, I am wondering what your advice to her would be in 2017? Both parents are now deceased.

CURIOUS DAUGHTER

DEAR CURIOUS: Although there were fewer options available for women in 1960 than there are today, I'm shocked that your mom received the advice she did over my mother's signature. My response today would be to ask her why she had chosen to stay with a controlling, emotionally abusive man who persisted in carrying around a photo of his ex-girlfriend in spite of the fact that he knew it hurt his wife. And then I'd suggest she ask herself whether she thought the three of you were better off with him or without him.

DEAR ABBY: I don't like people. I live alone and hardly leave my apartment. I have one friend I talk to on the phone every day, and sometimes my siblings who live out of town, but not often. The core of my issue may be my secret. I am gay and a foreigner.

I like to surf the net, read historical books, and enjoy classic literature novels. For some reason, I feel like hiding myself away from people is making me miss out. Am I abnormal? Do I need a therapist? I have internal peace in my life and I think I'm happy.

INTELLECTUAL LONER

DEAR INTELLECTUAL LONER: Your status as a gay, foreign loner who is hiding himself away must be troubling you on some level or you wouldn't have written to me. If you feel you could be getting more out of life than you currently are, then it would be worth your while to schedule some sessions with a licensed mental health professional and do some exploring.

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

CONFIDENTIAL TO MY IRISH FRIENDS:

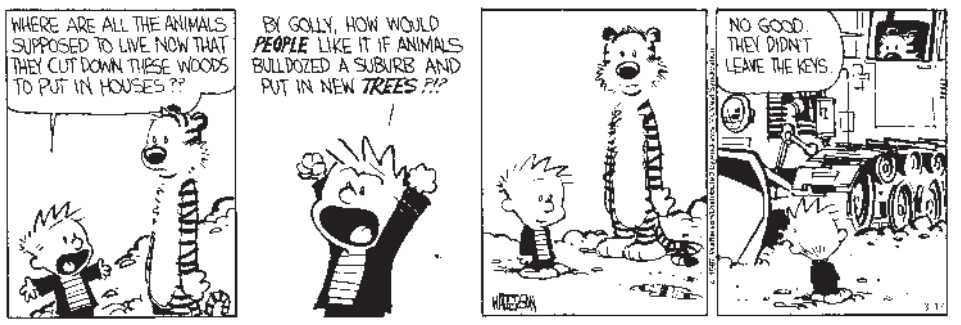
May you always have
A sunbeam to warm you
Good luck to charm you
And a sheltering angel
So nothing can harm you.
Laughter to cheer you
Faithful friends near you
And whenever you pray,
Heaven to hear you.
HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY!

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


WHERE ARE ALL THE ANIMALS SUPPOSED TO LIVE NOW THAT THEY CUT DOWN THESE WOODS TO PUT IN HOUSES??
BY GOLLY, HOW WOULD PEOPLE LIKE IT IF ANIMALS BULLDOZED A SUBURB AND PUT IN NEW TREES?!?
NO GOOD. THEY DIDN'T LEAVE THE KEYS.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

LAST PARAGRAPH... LAST SENTENCE... LAST WORD...
TIP... TAP...
AND... SEND.
TAP WHOOOSH
I'D BE MORE INSPIRED BY HIS DEDICATION IF HE WASN'T DROOLING.
HARD WORK IS GROSS.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Twangy
6 Afternoon social
9 Agt.'s cut
12 Texas landmark
13 Swiss canton
14 Rage
15 Google competitor
16 Desert crosser
18 Size up
20 Scoop holder
21 New Deal pres.
23 Outer (Pref.)
24 Square dance group
25 "Arrivederci!"
27 Follow
29 Synagogue singer
31 Written code
35 — -frutti
37 Mexican entree
38 Doppler device
41 Glutton
43 Otto — Bismarck
44 From the start
45 Actress Ryder
47 Fossil discovery of 1891
49 Kidney-related
52 I love (Lat.)
53 Squid squirt
54 Obliterate
55 Chick's mom
56 Billboards
57 Justice Sotomayor

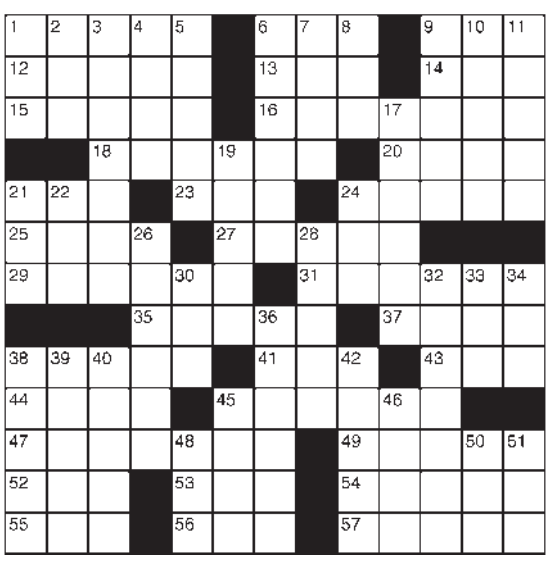
DOWN

1 Aye canceler
2 — carte
3 Desertlike
4 Book after Joel
5 Unfettered
6 Arizona city
7 Historic times
8 Put on TV
9 Turning point
10 Origami bird
11 Doctrine
17 Agree to, as terms
19 Apply, as pressure
21 TV watchdog org.
22 24 horas
24 French "yes"
26 Canada's capital
28 Offspring
30 Owned by us
32 Native of Cuba's capital
33 Green prefix
34 Director Howard
36 Considers
38 Indian prince
39 "What's in —?"
40 English cattle breed
42 Impales
45 Wizard's prop
46 Sleuth Wolfe
48 Soccer's Hamm
50 "— was saying ..."
51 Grazing land

Solution time: 26 mins.

N	O	D	S	■	A	I	P	■	T	G	I	F
A	V	E	C	■	T	E	L	■	O	R	S	O
P	E	E	R	■	T	I	E	■	L	A	N	E
A	R	R	I	V	E	■	A	G	E	N	T	S
■	■	■	B	I	N	■	■	A	L	U	■	■
D	I	M	E	■	D	I	P	L	O	M	A	S
A	R	A	■	E	T	E	■	■	A	S	K	■
M	A	S	T	H	C	A	D	■	C	S	P	Y
■	■	Q	W	E	■	■	A	M	Y	■	■	■
H	O	N	E	S	T	■	G	E	E	Z	E	R
O	B	I	E	■	U	N	O	■	F	E	M	A
L	E	T	I	■	S	A	G	■	U	N	I	T
U	Y	E	S	■	K	E	Y	■	L	O	I	S

Yesterday's answer 3-17



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Mia Hamm, 45; Rob Lowe, 53; Gary Sinise, 62; Kurt Russell, 66.

Happy Birthday: You can bring about changes that will bring you greater stability, but first try to recognize what has been weighing you down or costing you emotionally, financially or physically. Take care of some of the most immediate problems in order to ease your stress and open a window of opportunity. Your numbers are 4, 9, 17, 23, 28, 39, 41.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19)*: Go over your personal papers and review your financial situation to figure out how you can integrate what you have worked so hard to achieve with what you want to accomplish in the future. Negotiations will go well if you collaborate. ✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20)*: Listen to what others have to say and consider how your actions will affect others. Weigh the pros and cons and look for solutions that are in the best interest of everyone, not just a chosen few. ✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20)*: Being part of something much bigger then yourself or your inner circle will help give you the tools necessary to make a difference. Don't feel the need to make impulsive decisions in order to grab attention. ✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22)*: Take part in functions that mix business with pleasure, but don't try to take over. Be part of the solution, not part of the problem. Giving others a platform to voice opinions will strengthen your position when it's time to share. ✪✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22)*: Ask questions and assess situations as they unfold. It's up to you to use what's available to you in order to springboard into the future with optimism and the ability to win. Don't give in to bullies or jealous confrontations.✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)*: A private discussion with someone you respect will help you decipher how to best move forward. Be prepared to do the work if you want to receive the benefits. Leave nothing to chance if you want to get ahead. ✪✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22)*: You can make interesting observations and changes with regard to how you earn your living and what your options are for future advancement. Study all the possibilities and put stepping-stones in place to ensure steady progress. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21)*: Charm will help you capture positive attention. If you can project what you want to see happen in a friendly and inspiring way, you will capture an audience that will offer encouragement along with some awesome input. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21)*: Personal matters are best not shared with everyone. Consider who you are dealing with and how you can offset any problem you see festering. Personal changes at home or in an important relationship will turn out well. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19)*: Consider the jobs you have enjoyed working on in the past and you will come up with a way to implement what you enjoy doing with how you earn your living. Diversification will be your ticket to a satisfying future. ✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18)*: Dig deep, get the facts and assess whatever situation you face before you make any important decisions. Attend a reunion or reconnect with someone you found interesting in the past. ✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20)*: Share your feelings about the issues that affect those around you. Ask for input and you'll find a way to please everyone. Acceptance will play a huge role in maintaining emotional balance and the desire to work alongside others. ✪✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are charming, persuasive and original. You are entertaining and popular.

Eugenia's websites – eugenialast.com for Ask Eugenia, daily timing and compatibility services, and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

		6		1		7		
			4		5			
7					3			2
	3	8					5	
9								8
	2					4	9	
8			9					5
			8		2			
		7		5		3		

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 3/17

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

4	3	2	1	9	8	5	7	6
8	5	7	4	6	3	2	9	1
9	1	6	7	5	2	8	3	4
6	8	1	3	2	7	4	5	9
2	9	4	5	8	6	7	1	3
5	7	3	9	1	4	6	2	8
3	4	8	2	7	1	9	6	5
7	6	9	8	3	5	1	4	2
1	2	5	6	4	9	3	8	7

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

STENOGRAPHERS **Solution: 9 letters**

G	S	R	R	D	K	S	E	L	C	I	T	R	A	L
D	N	H	E	E	L	L	A	N	G	U	A	G	E	A
R	E	I	O	T	A	I	S	K	R	E	L	C	T	G
A	E	P	N	R	T	L	I	C	E	N	S	U	R	E
M	R	N	O	I	T	E	T	N	I	N	F	D	I	L
M	C	O	N	S	A	H	L	I	E	W	L	E	A	A
A	S	I	C	T	I	R	A	T	M	T	A	L	L	R
R	E	T	I	R	W	T	T	N	A	E	S	L	T	A
G	L	A	N	I	F	I	I	I	D	E	H	I	L	P
N	P	U	S	D	R	O	W	O	M	T	D	K	L	A
I	O	T	O	W	D	A	T	A	N	R	R	S	E	P
R	T	C	D	E	V	E	N	T	S	U	I	P	P	E
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Articles, Clerks, Codes, Court, Data, Deposition, Events, Final, Flash Drive, Grammar, Handwritten, Hearing, Initial, Language, Laptop, Law, Letter, Licensure, Listen, Medical Terms, Names, Numbers, Paper, Paralegal, Punctuation, Real Time, Screens, Shorthand, Skilled, Speeches, Speed, Spell, Talk, Training, Trial, Words, Write

Yesterday's Answer: Underplates

Jo's Jewels Collector's Edition is back by popular demand! Purchase online at www.WonderWordBooks.com or call 1-800-642-6480. (Contains 120 puzzles.)

CLASSIFIED ADS

EMPLOYMENT

1 Commercial Cleaner / Office Clerk: $6.55-$7.05/hr. At least 2 years experience required. Email resume to bluedragon@hanmisaipan.com.

1 Operation Manager, 1 Marketing Manager, $36,000 per year. Please mail resume to Blue Lagoon Realty Inc. P.O. Box 505478, Saipan MP 96950 or call 670-288-6903/04 look for Robert.

1 Aircon Technician, 2 Front desk Minimum Wage. Mail resume to P.O. Box 505478, Saipan, MP 96950 Or call 670-288-6904 look for Robert or Louliah

1 Supervisor: $1,200-$1,300/mo. College degree and at least 3 years' experience as a supervisor in a grocery store required.
1 Butcher: $6.55-$7.05/hr. High school diploma and at least 3 years' experience required. Email resume to dolim@hanmisaipan.com.

2 Maintenance & Repair Worker, minimum wage. Mail resume to Elliot System, LLC at P.O. Box 5568 Saipan, MP 96950.

1 Operations Manager. Bachelor's degree and at least 5 years experience in construction industry required.
1 Construction/Maintenance worker. Extensive knowledge in masonry, plumbing, electrical and carpentry work. Can read blue print and can work w/o supervision. Able to lift heavy blocks and flexible in work schedule. Send resume to P.O. Box 503317 Saipan or email to noel96950@yahoo.com. GMA Corp.

1 Pastor: $1,200-$1,500/mo. 3 years experience and Korean language speaking fluency required. Email resume to goodnews@hanmisaipan.com.

2 Automotive Mechanic (Radiator): $6.55-$7.05/hr. At least five years of experience, and specialty in radiator repair required. Email resume to grace@hanmisaipan.com.

1 Maintenance Repairer Sal $6.55/Hr 4Yrs Exp
JJ Brother Corp jjbrothercorp@gmail.com.

1 General Manager: $1,200-1,760/mo. Bachelor's degree & 4 yrs experience required. Must report to overseas owner in Korean. Email resume to jnd@hanmisaipan.com.

1 Restaurant Manager (Korean cuisine): $6.55-$7.05/hr. At least 2 years' managerial experience in a restaurant specializing in Korean cuisine required.
1 Cook (Korean cuisine): $6.55-$7.05/hr. At least 2 years' professional cooking experience in Korean cuisine required. Email resume to kl@hanmisaipan.com.

1 Accountant, 2 Maids & Housekeeping Cleaner, 1 Plumber, 2 General Maintenance & Repair Worker, 1 Carpenter, minimum salary. Please mail resume to Life Care Center International Inc. P.O. Box 505478, Saipan MP 96950 or call 670-288-6903/04 look for Robert.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
MONICA I. QUITEVIS
DBA Jackie's Place Salon
PMB 120 Box 10000
(3) Hairstylist / Beautician
Contact: 484-5088/323-5555

1 Comp.Sys.Mngr.; 1 Comp.Sys. Admin; 1 Comp. Specialist. Must be graduate of any computer related course.W/ 3-5 yrs exp. US Qualified applicant send resume at marianasoutsource@gmail.com

1 Building & Grounds Maintenance. $6.55/hr. Mail resume to Pacific International Marianas, Inc. dba Midway Motors. P.O. Box 500887, Saipan MP 96950.

1 Maintenance and Repair Worker, General: $6.55-$7.05/hr. At least 2 years experience required. Email resume to mc@hanmisaipan.com.

2 Maintenance & Repair Workers, 2 Computer Support Specialist, minimum salary. Mail resume to MTO Maintenance (Saipan), Inc. at P.O. Box 504053, Saipan MP 96950.

1 General Manager (Accounting): $1,200-1,800/mo. 5 years of managerial experience required. Must have majored in accounting. 10 years of accounting experience required. Public accounting experience required. Korean writing and speaking fluency required.
1 Accountant: $1,200-$1,800/mo. Bachelor's degree in accounting and least 2 years experience required. Public accounting experience required. Email resume to hps@hanmisaipan.com.

(4) Fishermen, (2) Sales Representatives. Minimum salary. Send resume to SMJ Corporation. P.O. Box 503944 Saipan, MP 96950.

1 Store Manager: $1,200-$1,300/mo. At least 2 years of experience as a clothing store manager is required. Korean speaking and writing fluency is required. Email resume to treasure@hanmisaipan.com.

1 Operations Manager: $1,200-$1,300/mo. Bachelor's degree & 2 years management experience required. Email resume to vienna@hanmisaipan.com.

3 Cook (Korean cuisine): $6.55-$7.05/hr. At least 2 years of professional cooking experience in Korean cuisine required.
2 Waiter/Waitress: $6.55-$7.05/hr. At least 1 year's experience required. Email resume to wing@hanmisaipan.com.

1 Piano teacher: $1,200-$1,800/mo. Bachelor's degree in music education and at least five years of experience required. Email resume to yonsei@hanmisaipan.com.

3 Cook (Korean cuisine): $6.55-$7.05/hr. At least 2 years of professional cooking experience in Korean cuisine required.
4 Waiter/Waitress: $6.55-$7.05/hr. At least 1 year's experience required. Email resume to yul@hanmisaipan.com.

Business Devt. Mgr 1, Sales Rep. 1.Must be graduate of any computer related course.W/ 3-5 yrs exp.US Qualified applicant send resume at marianasoutsource@gmail.com.

Mariana International Co. Ltd
PMB 252 Box 10002 Saipan MP 96950
Tel. 9892288
Email: cls6709892288@qq.com
2 Tour Guide/Agent
Us Workers
Chinese Speaking Preferred

REQ Day & Night Child Care
Job Vacancy Announcement

(5) Day Care Workers
- CCDF or DCCA Certification Required
- Willing to work flexible hours
- Must be reliable
- Medical Background is a plus
- Three years' experience in Child Care

(3) Teachers
- BSE/ED Graduate
- Three years' experience in head start, pre-school and afterschool teaching
- Must be computer literate
- Must have tutorial experience
- Certification in tutorial is a plus.

Salary commensurate with experience and qualifications.

If interested, please email resume to reqchildcare@yahoo.com

Mount Carmel School
Post Office Box 500006, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-6184/234-7188
Fax No. (670) 235-4751
Email: mtcarmel@vzpacifica.net
Web: http://www.mtcarmel-edu.net

Mount Carmel School, a private Catholic elementary and secondary school, is accepting applications for the following postitions.

Japanese Language Teacher
Min Reqs: Graduation from an accredited college or university with a Bachelor's degree in Japanese Language or related field.

Elementary School Teacher
Min Reqs: Graduation from an accredited college or university with a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education or related field.

School Accountant
Min Reqs: Graduation from an accredited college or university with a Bachelor's degree in Accounting or related field.

School Custodian / Maintenance Personnel
Min Reqs: High school diploma and at least six months to one year of experience of custodian / maintenance.

Send CV to Mount Carmel School, P.O. Box 500006, Saipan, MP 96950 or email to galvin.deleonguerrero@gmail.com. Verif of qualifs req.

Saipan Adventures, Inc.
invites qualified U.S. worker candidates to apply for the following positions:

Tour Sales Representative (11)
High School Diploma or GED with a minimum of six (6) months to one (1) year experience in travel or tour operation, sales or service related field. Able and willing to work shifts, evenings, holidays, and weekends. Able to drive tourists safely through various tour routes. Fluent in both written and oral communication in the English and Chinese languages.

Interested applicants may send their resumes to savi_recruitment@tanholdings.com. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than 5:00PM on March 21, 2017. Applications for Employment are available at the Front Office of Century Tours Inc. located on the Ground Floor of Kanoa Resort, Beach Road, Susupe Village. Applicants must be able and willing to work shifts, evenings, holidays, and weekends. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

Saipan Adventures, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

Century Tours, Inc.
invites qualified U.S. worker candidates to apply for the following positions:

Tour Sales Representative (6)
High School Diploma or GED with a minimum of six (6) months to one (1) year experience in travel or tour operation, sales or service related field. Able and willing to work shifts, evenings, holidays, and weekends. Able to drive tourists safely through various tour routes. Fluent in both written and oral communication in the English and Chinese languages.

Interested applicants may send their resumes to ceti_recruitment@tanholdings.com. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than 5:00PM on March 21, 2017. Applications for Employment are available at the Front Office of Century Tours Inc. located on the Ground Floor of Kanoa Resort, Beach Road, Susupe Village. Applicants must be able and willing to work shifts, evenings, holidays, and weekends. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

Century Tours, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

Job Vacancy Announcement
MUSICIAN

With five (5) years minimum experience as a professional musician. Must have the ability to sing, harmonize and play musical instruments, preferably Electric/Acoustic Guitar, as soloists or as a member of the band. Be able to perform several musical styles/music genre to various customers such as but not limited to Japanese, Korean & Chinese. An extensive experience in entertaining live audiences in Hotel lobbies, concert halls, and Casino is an advantage. Competent in the use of musical sequencer, synthesizers and PA systems. Experience as sound technician is an advantage.

Email resume to
PIAO INVESTMENT CORPORATION
(mapagahes@gmail.com)

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
WINCHELL'S DONUTS

1 vacancy for **Store Manager**. Wage per hour depends on qualifications. Must be college level and has at least 2 years of continued experience in managing bakery operations; must have knowledge in operating cash register or POS system; must be customer-service oriented, computer literate and confident in doing basic mathematical skills. Capability of conversing in basic Japanese or other foreign languages is highly preferred.

4 vacancies for **Donut Makers / Bakers**. Wage ranges from $6.55/hr to $7.70/hr. Must be a high school graduate with an equivalent of at least 4 years experience in baking; must be able to read, write and speak basic English; must be capable of lifting at least 50lbs and has basic mathematical skills and knowledge in operating a cash register or POS system. Capability of conversing in basic Japanese and other foreign languages is highly preferred.

Additional requirements: All applicants must be of good health with good moral character. Must be able to follow grooming standards; provide current police/court clearance and health certificate. Must have reliable transportation and must undergo a drug test.

Please email your resume to jobapplicant2014@gmail.com

WHATZIT Solution: To each his own

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as $30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$30
• 5-Liner	$24	$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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His 2 Own 2

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Subscribe to the CNMI's First Daily Newspaper. Call 235-NEWS

CLICK IT OR TICKET
DAY & NIGHT

FIESTA Resort & SPA SAIPAN

is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following vacant position:

Bartender (1)

Qualification:
High School graduate or equivalent. 2 years progressive work experience as a bartender is required and preferably from a full service hotel or high volume restaurant. Must have a pleasing personality and sound judgment. Good customer service skills required. Must be willing to work a flexible schedule including week nights, weekends and holidays.

Applications may be obtained and submitted to our security office on the ground floor, south wing. Deadline for submission of application to be considered is March 26, 2017.

Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

POI Aviation

Invites qualified US workers to apply for the following positions:

Housekeeping Manager (1)
Qualification: At least 5 years of progressive experience in a hotel or a related field; or a 2-year college degree and 3 or more years of related experience; or a 4-year college degree and at least 1 year of related experience. Supervisory experience required. Must be proficient in computer software applications, strong customer service and time management skills are essential. Must be able to work flexible schedule including early morning hours, nights, weekends and holidays.

Interested applicants may send their applications to recruitment@poiaviation.com. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than March 23, 2017. Applications for employment are available at the Human Resources Department. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

POI Aviation is an Equal Opportunity Employer
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

Auto Marine Incorporation

(2) Diesel Engine Mechanic
At Least 3 years Experience in Mechanical Job
(1) Motor Boat Mechanic
At Least 3 years Experience in Mechanical Job

Contact No. 323-2916
Contact Person: Adonis I. Santos

HONG ELECTRIC ENTERPRISES, INC.

(1) COMPUTER PROGRAMMER
Salary $7.05/Hr 4Yrs Exp
(1) GENERAL MANAGER
Salary depends on Qualifications

Send resume to: hongeei@pticom.com

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
WUSHIN CORPORATION

ACCOUNTANT (1)
- Prepare, examine and analyze accounting records, financial statements, and other financial reports to assess accuracy, completeness and conformance to reporting and procedural standards.
- Compute taxes owed and prepare tax returns ensuring compliance with payment, reporting and other tax requirements.
- Analyze business operations, trends, costs, revenues, financial commitments and obligations to project futures revenues and expenses
- Report to management regarding the finances of the company
- Established tables of accounts, and assign entries to proper accounts;
- Maintain and analyze budgets preparing monthly profit & loss reports;
- Develop, implement, modify and document record keeping and accounting system
- Prepares payroll
- Prepare and reconcile Bank Statement;
- And perform other related duties as required

Bachelor's Degree in Accounting with 5 years progressive experience, Familiar with petroleum Industry activities. Must have good communication skills and can do multitasking. Organized, self-motivated, responsible and able to manage deadlines. Proficient in Peachtree, Excel and MS Word software.

BOOKKEEPER (1)
- Must be efficient in handling financial reports and statements and have knowledge in dealing with LPG, computation of taxes, payroll and others.

College Degree in Accounting with at least 3 years experience work related in General Accounting. Proficient in Peachtree Accounting System, MS Excel and Word. Must be able to work under pressure and must be able to manage deadlines.

LPG EQUIPMENT / TANK TRUCK MECHANIC (1)
- Repairing and Maintenance of LPG cargo tank including complete valve installation and metering system;
- Troubleshoot LPG lines, hose, and emergency shutdown remote device;
- Diagnose, maintain and tank truck hose and metering system;
- Make recommendations and perform equipment installation, replacement and modification as required.
- Monitoring tank truck drivers in the implementation of the preventive maintenance program required for LPG cargo tank;
- Lay-out, installs, and repairs and replace gauges, valves, pressure regulators and related equipment; and perform related other duties as required.

Minimum of 5 years experience specifically dealing with LPG Business. Must have experience in safety practices and Hazmat security procedures. Training Certificate of Hazardous materials and Dangerous goods is required. Commercial driver's Health Certificate is required. Must possess a current and valid CNMI driver's license and not be disqualified to drive a motors vehicle, police and court clearance.

LPG MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN (1)
- Loading and unloading of LPG Gas isotainer to LPG storage tank with safety procedures
- Perform LPG equipment installation
- Perform LPG gas sales, delivering, connecting and maintaining LPG gas equipment
- Be able to assist and resolve customer complaints, and perform other related duties as required.

Must have 5 years work related experience. Must have the ability to perform LPG equipment installation. Training certificate in Hazmat transportation is required. Commercial driver's health certificate is required. Must have a current and valid CNMI driver's license and not be disqualified to drive a motor vehicle

LPG TANK TRUCK DRIVER (1)
- To unload LPGas from isotainer to storage tank. Load LPGas from storage tank to cargo tank truck and to unload LPGas from cargo tank truck to customer's storage tank.
- Record LPG inventory loaded from storage tank and to record LPG delivered to customer
- Provides sales invoice to customer. Monitor cargo tank truck gauges or meters while loading /unloading to ensure accuracy of quantity delivered. Monitor loading/unloading of LPG with safety procedures.
- Driver's enroute security procedures and pre-tip vehicle inspection must be observed and performed.
- Perform other related duties as required

Must have 5 years experience as LPG Tank Driver. Must be a trained Hazmat tank truck driver. Safety training certificate iof hazardous materials/transportation of dangerous goods is required. Have a driving record eith safety standars in regards to preventable motor vehicle accidents and violation of motor vechile laws. Must be physically qualified to drive a MC331 cargo tank truck. Must have a current and valid CNMI driver's license and not be disqualified to drive a motor vehicle/ Police/court clearance and commercial driver's health certificate are required.

Interested applicants must submit an application or resume at our office, located in Industrial Drive, Lower Base or send an email to wushin2@pticom.com.

Wushin Corporation is an equal opportunity employer and has a drug free work environment. Pre-employment drug testing may be required.

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following position:

Business Analyst/Developer
Associate's degree in computer science and programing with at least 3 years of progressive work-related experience in Information Technology. Must have experience in analyzing data to draw business-relevant conclusions and in data visualization techniques and tools

- Solid experience in writing SQL queries
- Basic knowledge in generating process documentation
- Robust knowledge in developing web-based application and Mobile APPS
- Strong written and verbal communication skills including technical writing skills
- Experience working with System Builder

Applications can be obtained and submitted at the Human Resources Office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 29, 2017.

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

Century Tours, Inc.

invites qualified U.S. worker candidates to apply for the following positions:

Tour Guide (1)
High School Diploma or GED with a minimum of six (6) months to one (1) year experience in travel or tour operation, sales or service related field. Able and willing to work shifts, evenings, holidays, and weekends. Able to drive tourists safely through various tour routes. Fluent in both written and oral communication in the English and Chinese languages.

Interested applicants may send their resumes to ceti_recruitment@tanholdings.com. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than 5:00PM on March 20, 2017. Applications for Employment are available at the Front Office of Century Tours Inc. located on the Ground Floor of Kanoa Resort, Beach Road, Susupe Village. Applicants must be able and willing to work shifts, evenings, holidays, and weekends. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

Century Tours, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

STRATEGIC GAMING SOLUTIONS, INC.

is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following positions:

Finance Manager (1)
Bachelor degree in Accounting, Business Administration or related area. Three (3) or four (4) years experience in accounting, management of financial systems and budgets, financial reporting, financial data analysis and forecasting, auditing, taxation and providing financial advice preferably in the gaming industry. Must be extremely number-oriented and computer literate with superior spreadsheet skills, proficiency in SAP Accounting Software and Excel highly preferred.

Head Cook (1)
Must have a high school diploma or equivalent plus two (2) to three (3) years of work experience as a cook in a restaurant or hotel. Preferably with experience in Western, Japanese and Chinese cuisine. Must be willing to work shifts, holidays and weekends.

Cook (1)
Must have a high school diploma or equivalent plus two (2) years of work experience as a cook in a restaurant or hotel. Preferably with experience in Western, Japanese and Chinese cuisine. Must be willing to work shifts, holidays and weekends.

Food & Beverage Team Leader (1)
Must have a high school diploma or equivalent plus three (3) to five (5) years of work experience as a Food and Beverage Team Leader in a Hotel or Restaurant. Must have knowledge of Micros (POS) and is able to formulate systems and procedures for the operations of the Bar, Restaurant and Kitchen.

Interested applicants may pick up an application at our HR Office located within Kanoa Resort, Susupe Beach Road from Monday to Friday between the hour of 10:30am to 5:30pm. Applications must be supported with resume and certificates. Last day of submission of application is March 23, 2017.

Strategic Gaming Solutions, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

JVA for MISA ENTERPRISES,INC.

General Maintenance (2): Duties may involve skills in electrical, plumbing, carpentry, masonry, painting, landscape or maintain grounds of property using hand or power tools or equipment. Can typically perform variety of task such as sod laying, mowing, trimming, planting, watering, fertilizing, digging, raking and installing, repairing buildings, floors or stairs.

Additional Requirements: Must have a valid CNMI driver's license and flexible in work hours. All applicants must be of good health and good moral character must be able to provide current police clearance, with reliable transportation and must agree to drug test.

Applicants of position listed above are required to have a minimum of 2-3 years of experience.

We are an equal opportunity employer. Qualified applicants will be considered.

Applications can be picked up at Kinpachi Restaurant MISA Bldg.1 in Coral Tree Avenue, Garapan. Please no phone calls.

Misamis Construction
Now Hiring

- (02) Construction Supervisors
- (20) Carpenters
- (20) Masons
- (10) Painters
- (10) Electricians
- (10) Steel Workers-Welders
- (10) Plumbers
- (10) Building Maintenance Repairers
- (5) Commercial Cleaners

Local applicants are encouraged to apply.
Please call 235-5238 or visit our office in Chalan Kanoa
Email: misamisconstruction@yahoo.com

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
Accountant

Bachelor's Degree with a minimum of five year experience is required. Must be knowledgeable in Peach Tree Accounting software and be able to work flexible hours with a valid Driver License. Salary will be based on qualifications and experience starting at $6.55.

Interested applicants must submit resume and pick up application at Pacific Development, Inc. in Grandvrio Resort Saipan, Garapan no later than March 24, 2017

Charms Inc.
Job Vacancy Announcement

(1) Engine Marine Mechanic
- Must have 2 years experience and able to inspect, repair, replace engine and machinery

(1) Beautician Manager
- Must have 2 years experience, knowledgeable in Skin Care and manage/operate a salon

(3) Beautician
- Must have 3 years experience, knowledgeable in all salon services.

Interested applicants, please call 233-9391 or submit resume to P.O. Box 503332, Saipan MP 96950

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

General Mechanic (1) - Minimium of 5 years professional experience as general mechanic, repairs and maintains physical structures of the facility, repairs of vehicles, office machines and equipments, plumbing, electrical, carpentry, air condition, and all other equipments of the company. Rate $6.55 to $7.50/hr.

Interested applicants can mail their resume at P.O. Box 7788 SVRB, Saipan MP 96950 or may email to saipan@americopters.com.
No phone calls please.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
DIPOTO CO.

(1) General Manager
(Photographer)
10 years experience with an average skills in Computer Design

(3) Photographers
3 years experience in photo shooting and design

Able to speak/understand Korean and Japanese language.

Salary commensurable to experience.

Please send resume to P.O. Box 506448 or email to dipoto@naver.com

Danes Construction Corporation

is looking for the following:

(9) Carpenter
(10) Mason
(1) Accounting Technician
(1) Computer Support Technician

Must have 5 years experience & maybe subject for a skill test. Interested applicants may send their application to danes@guam.net

KAUILA ENTERPRISE
is looking for:
1 Bookkeeper
Please send resume to
P.O. Box 505053, Saipan MP 96950
or email to annacabael@yahoo.com

KAUILA ENTERPRISE PROFESSIONAL SERVICE
is looking for:
1 Electronic Technician
Please send resume to
P.O. Box 505053, Saipan MP 96950
or email to annacabael@yahoo.com

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
1 Baker
1 Accounting Associates
2 Cook
1 Purchaser
With 2-3 years experience wiling to work on flexible hours.
Please send resume to JNJ CORPORATION
PMB 114 Box 10002, Saipan MP 96950

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
4 Mechanic
1 Marine Sports Instructor
1 Computer Technician
With 2-3 years experience wiling to work on flexible hours.
Please mail resume to AQUATIC MARINE CO. INC.
PMB 114 Box 10002, Saipan MP 96950

CHINESE GOODS CENTER INC.
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
2 COOK
With 3 years experience wiling to work on flexible hours.
Please mail resume to
P.O. Box 502351 Saipan, MP 96950

Apartment/House Cleaner
1 year experience in cleaning commercial & residential establishments.
Minimum salary
Please send resume to
P.O. Box 501555 CK, Saipan MP 96950
or email to jacris4916@yahoo.com

G4S
Securing Your World

Work for one of the Top 10 Admired Employers!
G4S IS HIRING NOW!

- **Administrative Assistant**
- **Security Officers**
- **Service/Install Technicians** (CCTV, intrusion systems, access systems, intercom & fire alarm)
- **Security Advisor** (Sales)

Submit applications at G4S Office located at Beach Road Ladera Building, Chalan Lau-lau.
For more information, call (670) 233-3238 or e-mail hr@gu.g4s.com

"G4S is an Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Employer".

Workforce Solution, Inc. is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following positions:

Finance Manager (1)
Bachelor degree in Accounting, Business Administration or related area. Three (3) or four (4) years experience in accounting, management of financial systems and budgets, financial reporting, financial data analysis and forecasting, auditing, taxation and providing financial advice preferably in the gaming industry. Must be extremely number-oriented and computer literate with superior spreadsheet skills, proficiency in SAP Accounting Software and Excel highly preferred.

General Manager (1)
College graduate in Business Management plus ten (10) years casino management experience and five (5) years as a Casino Manager. Knowledge in financial management, forecasting and budgeting, strategic planning, marketing brand reinforcement, networking and stakeholder communication skills.

Cook (1)
Must have a high school diploma or equivalent plus two (2) years of work experience as a cook in a restaurant or hotel. Preferably with experience in Western, Japanese and Chinese cuisine. Must be willing to work shifts, holidays and weekends.

Administrative Accounting Clerk (1)
Bachelor degree in Accounting plus two (2) to three (3) years accounting experience. Must be familiar with SAP and Excel.

Food and Beverage Manager (1)
Degree in Hotel and Restaurant Management, business administration or other 4-year college equivalent plus three (3) to four (4) years experience in restaurant, bar business and food handling. Knowledge and experience in strategic planning, workforce planning, performance management and alignment, highly motivated, organized, outgoing with excellent communication and leadership skills.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at Human Resources Office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than **5:00pm, Friday, March 23, 2017.**

Workforce Solutions, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

CHONG'S CORPORATION
Job Vacancy Announcement

Five (5) TECHNICIANS-AIR CONDITIONING & REFRIGERATION
- Install, service and repair of Central Air-Conditioning, Refrigeration and Ventilation Systems
- Repair and service of Chilled Water Air-Conditioning System
- Perform repair and trouble analysis of VAV and VVT Control Systems
- Perform Computer based Control System

Other requirements:
- Minimum 5-year work experience required
- EPA Section 608 (Certification required)
- Maintenance Technician & Electrical Safety Course in accordance with 29CFR 1910 Standard (Preferable)
- Must possess good communication skill

One (1) HEAD TECHNICIAN-AIR CONDITIONING & REFRIGERATION
- Read and interpret blueprints, technical drawings, schematics and computer-generated reports
- Establish and coordinate maintenance and safety procedures, service schedule and supply of materials required to maintain equipment
- Oversee installation, operation, maintenance and repair to ensure equipment are functioning according to specifications
- Install, service and repair of Central Air-Conditioning, Refrigeration and Ventilation Systems
- Repair and service of Chilled Water Air-Conditioning System
- Perform repair and trouble analysis of VAV and VVT Control Systems
- Perform Computer based Control System

Other requirements:
- Minimum 5-year work experience required
- 4-year Bachelor of Science degree from reputable College or University
- EPA Section 608 (Certification required)
- Must possess good communication skill

Two (2) SHEET METAL WORKERS
- Fabricate and install sheet metal & fiberglass products & equipment such as ducts, control boxes, drain pipes & furnace casings
- Set-up and operate fabricating equipment and machines, soldering and welding equipment
- Must be knowledgeable in interpreting plans and specifications
- Preferably knowledgeable in duct size calculation
- Minimum 5-year work experience required
- Must possess good communication skill

One (1) HVAC/R SALES REPRESENTATIVE
- Knowledgeable of HVAC-R Equipment and Parts sale
- Knowledgeable of product selection, listing of order and inventory
- Must be proficient on Computer Software such as Peachtree Accounting System, MS Excel and MS Word
- Minimum 5-year work experience required

E-mail resume to chongs@pticom.com

Job Vacancy Announcements
YANO Enterprises, Inc. dba: Kinpachi Restaurant

Assistant Manager (1): Be able to assist the general manager in the supervision of business establishment to ensure the restaurant & stores efficiency & profitable operations; work closely with the personnel in preparation & processing of reservations, greets & answers customers inquiry, patrons complaints & resolve problems. Prepare advertising campaigns of the restaurant & stores to attract customers. Assist in doing daily inventory of foods, merchandise and assets of the business. Duties include but are not limited to delegating authority & assigning responsibilities, reviewing financial transactions & monitoring budget limitations, & be able to present written & oral reports on the company's financial & operational status. Must have Japanese oral skills & knowledge of Japanese food products.

Restaurant Supervisor (3): Must be qualified in restaurant operations, customer service, menu planning, & reservation operations. Must be responsible for the supervision of staff as to dining areas cleanliness in appearance & outside grounds. Ensure any customers issues are addressed immediately and resolved in a manner which exceeds the customer's expectation. Also need to have basic Japanese oral skills. Must have an extensive knowledge of Japanese food products & be able to make orders & preparations.

Accountant (2): Must be efficient in handling financial records, statements, & reports. Have knowledge on all Taxes computation & filing. Must be able to budget & estimate purchasing costs & requisitions of merchandise necessary in the company.

Restaurant Waitress (3): Greeting Customers. Must be able to speak basic Japanese & efficient English & have a friendly & outgoing personality. Should be knowledgeable of the restaurant dishes, familiar with the entire menu the establishment offers. Can introduce & recommend daily specials as well as the restaurant's regular menu items. Continued services after the meal have been served and accept payments & other duties related.

Cook (8): Must be experienced & skilled in preparing Japanese cuisine including but not limited to sushi, sashimi, & tempura. Can prepare all menu items according to quantity menus, must know cutting and preparation techniques for each type of fish used in sushi rolls as well as how to prepare rice, sauces and seasonal ingredients, must ensure that ingredients are fresh, colorful and always in stock, that the all-important knives are sharp and clean, and that all equipment is in working order. Must be able to maintain kitchen & observe safety & sanitary food handling practices as well as other related duties.

General Maintenance (3): Must have a valid CNMI driver's license and flexible in work hours. Duties may involve skills in electrical, plumbing, carpentry, masonry, painting, landscape or maintain grounds of property using hand or power tools or equipment. Can typically perform variety of task such as sod laying, mowing, trimming, planting, watering, fertilizing, digging, raking and installing , repairing buildings, floors or stairs.

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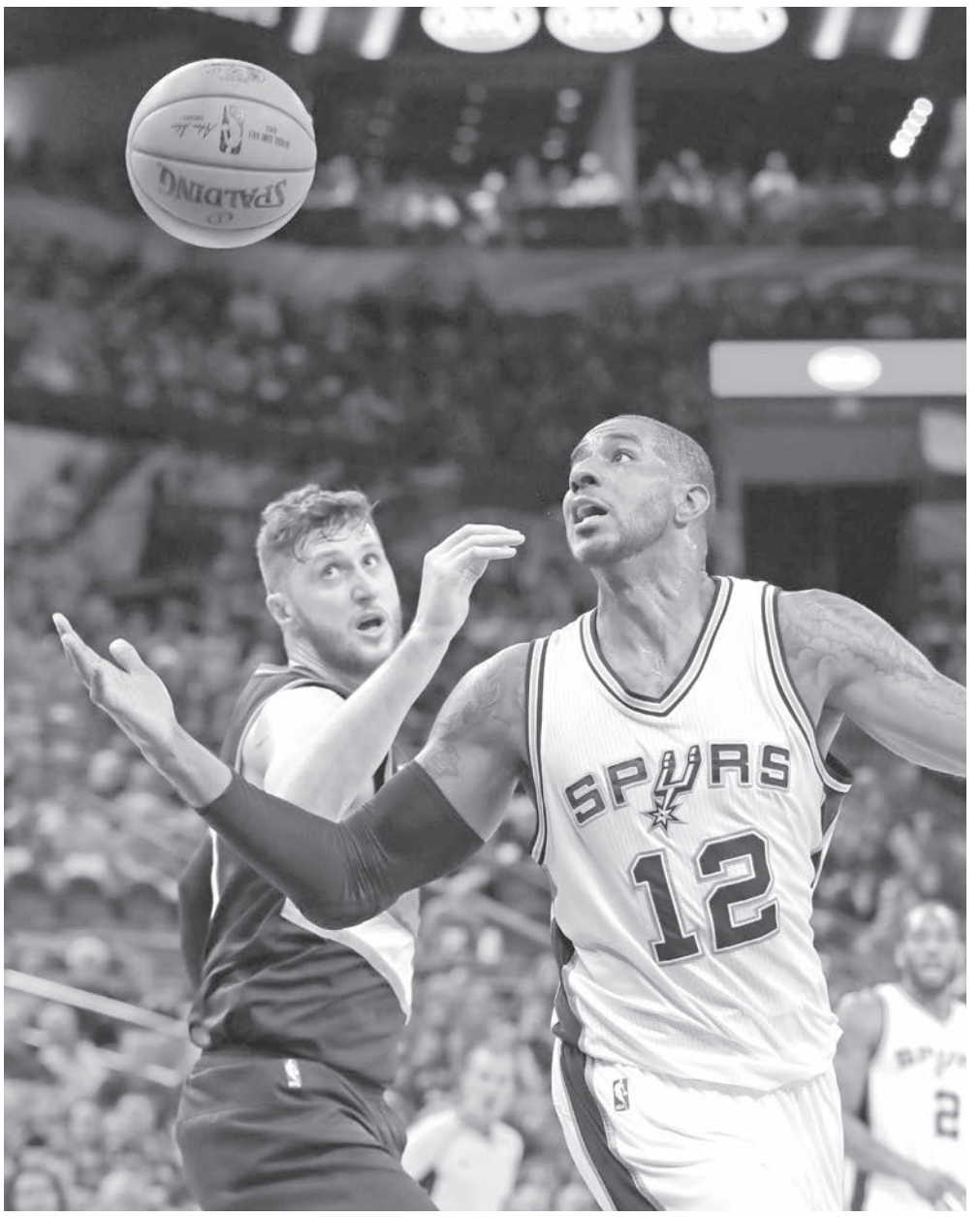
Trail Blazers beat Spurs to spoil Aldridge's comeback

SAN ANTONIO (AP)—Damian Lillard scored 36 points as the Portland Trail Blazers beat the San Antonio Spurs 110-106 on Wednesday night, spoiling LaMarcus Aldridge's return from a health scare.

C.J. McCollum added 26 points for the Trail Blazers, who were coming off a 23-point loss in New Orleans.

Aldridge had 19 points and seven rebounds after missing two games with a minor heart arrhythmia. He was cleared Wednesday morning and does not have any playing restrictions. Aldridge finished 9 for 24 from the field and played 32 minutes. He made his first two attempts, a 17-foot jumper and a 21-footer, drawing loud cheers from the sold-out crowd.

Kawhi Leonard had 34 points to lead San Antonio (52-15), which had won 11 of 12 entering the game but fell one game behind Golden State for the league's best record.



AP

San Antonio Spurs forward LaMarcus Aldridge (12) reaches for a rebound in front of Portland Trail Blazers center Jusuf Nurkic (27) during the second half of an NBA basketball game, Wednesday, March 15, 2017, in San Antonio.

Grizzlies 98, Bulls 91

In Chicago, Mike Conley and Marc Gasol each scored 27 points to lead Memphis past Chicago, which lost Dwyane Wade to a sprained elbow.

Conley and Gasol scored 18 of the team's 24 points in the fourth quarter as the Grizzlies held off the Bulls, who lost for the sixth time in seven games.

Memphis, which had lost five straight before winning Monday, earned its second straight win.

The Bulls were without Wade down the stretch after he injured his right elbow with 8:34 remaining. He did not return. Rajon Rondo scored 17 points to lead Chicago.

Heat 120, Pelicans 112

In Miami, Goran Dragic played through a black eye and bloodied mouth to score 33 points, and Hassan Whiteside had 20 points and 17 rebounds in Miami's victory over New Orleans.

Wayne Ellington scored 19 for the Heat, who made 16 3-pointers and have won 18 consecutive games when connecting at least 10 times from beyond the arc. Dion Waiters added 14, and James Johnson and Tyler Johnson had 10 apiece for Miami.

The Heat (33-35) won for the 22nd time in 27 games and are 14-1 in their last 15 at home.

Anthony Davis scored 27 points and DeMarcus Cousins added 19 for the Pelicans. E'Twaun Moore had 18 off the bench.

Kings 107, Suns 101

In Phoenix, Rookie Skal Labissiere scored 21 of his career-high 32 points in the fourth quarter, a breakout performance that lifted Sacramento over Phoenix.

The 6-foot-11 Haitian, who spent much of the season with the Reno Bighorns of the Developmental League, scored the first 16 Sacramento points of the final quarter.

T.J. Warren scored 24 for the Suns, who rested Eric Bledsoe for the night.

Rookie Tyler Ulis, a teammate of Labissiere at Kentucky, started in place of Bledsoe and had a career-high 13 assists.

Pacers 98, Hornets 77

In Indianapolis, Paul George made six 3-pointers and finished with 39 points to lead Indiana past Charlotte.

Jeff Teague added eight points, eight rebounds and 11 assists, Myles Turner had six points, 11 rebounds and three blocks, and Monta Ellis scored 16 points for the Pacers.

Leading 50-47 in the third quarter, Indiana used a 15-0 run to extend the lead and ultimately shut the door on Charlotte.

Frank Kaminsky led Charlotte with 20 points.

Mavericks 112, Wizards 107

In Washington, Dirk Nowitzki scored 10 of his 20 points in the fourth quarter, Harrison Barnes finished with 22 and Dallas boosted its slim playoff hopes with a win over Washington.

Nicolas Brussino scored eight of his 11 points off the bench in the fourth for the Mavericks, who began the night 3 1/2 games behind Denver for the final postseason spot in the Western Conference. Portland was positioned between Denver and Dallas.

Wizards guard John Wall had 26 points and 11 assists despite briefly leaving the game in the second quarter with a sprained left foot. Bradley Beal added 24 points as Washington dropped back-to-back games for the second time since its previous loss to Dallas on Jan. 3.

Celtics 117, Timberwolves 104

In Boston, Isaiah Thomas scored 27 points to lead Boston past Minnesota.

Al Horford added 20 points, nine rebounds and eight assists for the Celtics, who earned their 11th straight home win over Minnesota. Boston also increased its lead to 1 1/2 games over the Washington Wizards for the second seed in the Eastern Conference.

Ricky Rubio had a season-high 23 points to lead the Timberwolves, who dropped to just 10-21 on the road this season.

Boston led by eight entering the fourth quarter, but outscored Minnesota 32-27 in the final 12 minutes.

Rockets 139, Lakers 100

In Houston, Lou Williams scored 30 points against his former team and James Harden had his 17th triple-double of the season to lead Houston over Los Angeles.

Harden had 18 points, 13 assists and 12 rebounds as Houston handed the Lakers their 11th loss in 12 games.

Williams broke out of a recent shooting slump against his ex-teammates. Houston sent Corey Brewer and a first-round draft pick to Los Angeles in a trade for Williams three weeks ago.

Williams went 7 for 9 from beyond the arc and made his first seven field goal attempts, including four straight 3-pointers. Brewer, meanwhile, had four points in 21 minutes.

Julius Randle had 32 points and eight rebounds for the Lakers.

Jazz 97, Pistons 83

In Detroit, Gordon Hayward scored 25 points and George Hill added 17 and Utah beat Detroit.

Hayward added eight rebounds and six assists, while Rudy Gobert had 12 points, nine rebounds and four blocks. Utah won for the sixth time in seven games, but a late rally by Detroit forced Quin Snyder to use his starters late with a game Thursday night in Cleveland.

Aron Baynes had 12 points and 12 rebounds for Detroit, which lost for the second straight night and is in danger of falling back out of playoff position in the Eastern Conference. The Pistons lost 128-96 in Cleveland on Tuesday.

Bucks 97, Clippers 96

In Los Angeles, Giannis Antetokounmpo and Khris Middleton each scored 16 points to lead six Milwaukee players in double figures, and the Bucks held off the Los Angeles Clippers when Blake Griffin's last-second shot rolled off the rim.

DeAndre Jordan had 22 points and 17 rebounds for the Clippers. Griffin added 18.

The Bucks improved to 11-5 since losing second-leading scorer Jabari Parker to a season-ending knee surgery. They are seventh in the Eastern Conference, a half-game ahead of Detroit and Miami.

Amid Heat turnaround, Spoelstra drawing Chuck Daly comparisons

MIAMI (AP)—Ron Rothstein still speaks with nothing but reverence for his longtime friend Chuck Daly, who won two NBA titles with Detroit on his way to enshrinement in the Basketball Hall of Fame.

That's why this comparison is significant.

When Rothstein sees what Erik Spoelstra has done in Miami this season, he's reminded of Daly.

Spoelstra has emerged again as a coach of the year candidate after engineering perhaps the surprise story in the league this season, a turnaround that has seen the Heat transform from having the 29th-best record in the 30-team NBA to one firmly in the postseason chase. The Heat (33-35) are tied with Detroit for eighth in the Eastern Conference, after wins in 22 of their last 27 games.

"The game is about the players, not about us," said Rothstein, whose long coaching resume includes stints as an assistant under Daly in Detroit and under Spoelstra in Miami. "We're part of it, but it's about them. Chuck had a great ability to keep his ego in check and understand that players were more important than we were. That's not easy for a lot of coaches. It wasn't easy for me. But I see that in Spo."

Rothstein was the first Heat coach back in 1988 and has been part of the franchise for most of its history. He's been an assistant under Pat Riley, then had Spoelstra as his assistant during an interim-head-coach stint, and later worked on Spoelstra's staff. He's now part of the Heat broadcasting team, and knew if there was a way to fix this season Spoelstra would come up with the answer.

"He works harder than anyone I've known," Rothstein said.

When the Heat hit the midpoint of the season at 11-30, barely ahead of only woebegone Brooklyn in the NBA standings, a common perception was that Miami would be best served by tanking and trying to get the best draft pick possible.

Such thinking never entered Spoelstra's mind.

He kept insisting that the Heat roster—which had so many injuries that the lineup, it seemed, was changing nightly—was finding its way. It sounded like coachspeak until Miami put together a 13-game winning streak, the longest in the NBA this season.

And they haven't faded since.

"The locker room hasn't changed too much," Spoelstra said Wednesday night in a Facebook Live appearance for fans in the Philippines; he's a Filipino-American and the NBA is celebrating Filipino Heritage Week. "This has been a great group. I really enjoy the guys in the locker room. Even when we were 11-30, guys were coming into work with the right attitude every day to try to get better."

His players say their attitude reflects his leadership.

"He's the Coach of the Year," Heat point guard Goran Dragic said. "I think he should win it."

Spoelstra has never liked talking about individual honors, not even coach of the month awards. There are far more pressing issues for him to deal with in a playoff chase, even one that hardly anyone would have figured Miami would be involved in a couple months ago.

Busted: Teams at top of brackets find themselves in trouble

SALT LAKE CITY (AP)— They are supposed to be the best of the best. In many instances, they have looked more like the ugliest of the ugly.

Some of the top teams in this year's NCAA Tournament have seen their names pop up in off-the-court headlines all too often and for all the wrong reasons.

-No. 1 seed Kansas has been beset by a series of run-ins with the law.

-No. 2 seed Louisville is awaiting the latest from the NCAA in a back-and-forth that started when an assistant coach hired female escorts to party with recruits.

-Another top seed, North Carolina, is still going back and forth with the NCAA on a complicated case centered on athletes taking "paper classes" that resulted in inflated grades to keep the players eligible. This story was running hot last year while the Tar Heels were making a run to the NCAA final. It still isn't resolved.

If all this feels achingly familiar, it's because it is.

"It's not a new problem," said Joy Gaston Gayles, a professor at North Carolina State who studies the impact college sports has on its athletes. "And you often wonder, what's going to be the scandal that breaks the camel's back? Every decade, scandals get worse and nothing really changes."

You could put together a book about them all, which is exactly what Penn State professor Shaun Harper did recently. Gayles wrote a chapter in "Scandals in College Sports" about some of the lowlights of the past 10 years or so.

"You see these kinds of things, and for institutions of higher education, it flies in the face of everything higher education is about," she said.

North Carolina's irregular-courses scandal has already cost the university—long one of the most respected in the nation—the embarrassment of a 12-month probation levied by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. There is still the possibility the NCAA could find the athletics program guilty of "lack of institutional control," which has, for decades, been about the worst conclusion possible within the realm of college sports.

But "institutional control" can be defined in many different ways outside of the traditional NCAA nomenclature.

In the most damaging instance of legal trouble at Kansas this season, police investigated a reported rape at the dorm that houses the basketball team. No charges have been filed.

From there, more headlines kept piling up involving no fewer than four players.

Coach Bill Self said he's proud his team has rallied despite the steady stream of issues.

"I will say that this team has been as focused as any group that I can remember considering all the crap and distractions that this team has listened to and dealt with," he said.

While Self paints an us-against-the-world scenario, Rick Pitino is portraying this season as a comeback story at Louisville - proud of what his team has accomplished after losing two scholarships as part of self-imposed sanctions that also included missing the postseason last year. The coach has accused the NCAA of overreaching for suggesting a possible one-year suspension because he failed to monitor the assistant coach who was throwing the recruit parties.

AP

In this Oct. 20, 2016, file photo, Louisville basketball coach listens to a response during a news conference about an NCAA investigation, in Louisville, Ky.

And yet, the biggest story about Pitino this week is that he and his son, Richard, are the first father-son coaching duo in the tournament. The Minnesota program that Richard Pitino now coaches has been beset with problems for decades, the latest of which came last year when Pitino suspended three players for their connection to a sex video that showed up on social media.

At Baylor, one of the darkest episodes in college sports history was brought to light again when news surfaced of an upcoming documentary in which former coach Dave Bliss repeats the claim that Patrick Dennehy, who was shot and killed in 2003, was a drug dealer. That documentary will air the night before the Final Four.

At East Tennessee State, the Buccaneers are celebrating the reclamation project that is coach Steve Forbes, who was fired from Tennessee and suspended for a year for failing to cooperate with an investigation into then-coach Bruce Pearl's program.

All this makes the problems this year at Duke seem almost quaint. Coach Mike Krzyzewski handed down an "indefinite" suspension to star Grayson Allen because Allen couldn't stop tripping opponents. The suspension turned out to last one game.

Wins, losses and ties: Fashion choices important to coaches

BUFFALO, N.Y. (AP)— Sometimes the toughest coaching decisions aren't zone defense or man-to-man, but double breasted or vest?

Fashion can be just as important on the road to the Final Four.

Villanova's Jay Wright, West Virginia's Bob Huggins and Virginia Tech's Buzz Williams, whose tastes in clothing run from fine Italian silk to polyester, all offered the reasons for their sartorial choices on the sideline ahead of their first-round NCAA Tournament games.

Wright is regarded as one of the game's best-dressed coaches and was recently profiled in a GQ Magazine spread. Even his tailor has been doing interviews.

"We've got to get him under control," Wright said with a laugh.

But Wright takes serious pride in his "traditional" look and part of his news conference was devoted to addressing his style compared to that of Notre Dame's Mike Brey and Huggins, who prefer more casual outfits—no tie.

"I like Hugs' look," Wright said. "When you wear a nice suit and you're in the huddle and they're sweating on your suit. The guys are dripping on top of you. I'm thinking why am I wearing this nice suit? But it's tradition."

Huggins has worn a non-buttoned top for several years, a look that he joked better complements his body.

"I used to wear a tie. I did the whole deal," Huggins said. "I had tie, vest, I mean the whole deal. Probably if you look at pictures of me and Jay early, I was probably better looking back then. Probably dressed better back then. I had been doing it longer, had more money.

"The whole story is this: I had a suit and tie on, and we're playing somebody, and I'm at Cincinnati, and I go in, and I'm like I got to put something different on, because I had sweat all of the way through my suit and my vest. They were heavy," he said.

"So they brought me in a pullover, and I put it on and coached the second half in a pullover, and I was walking in, my AD said, 'I just want to tell you look really good in that pullover. That's what really coaches should wear.' So I started wearing one."

Williams would like to change into something more, ahem, suitable to his coaching style. He's found himself a target after soaking through his shirt and jacket during games.

He keeps a backup suit in case he gets too wet.

"What I tried to do is incorporate vests," he said. "It's the silliest thing ever, right? When you get your car fixed, does the mechanic sweat? You know, the guy that builds your house, the carpenter, I think he sweats. And I know it's funny, and I know I'm not the best looking guy in the world, but I'm just working real hard.

"All I want to do is help our guys as much as I can. If that means I sweat, who cares. That's kind of the way I feel, so I just wear a vest so it doesn't become viral on Twitter," Williams said.

After he spent 15 minutes discussing his team's chances of repeating as national champions, Wright handled a couple pressing questions about his clothing game.

Double Windsor? And is pocket square necessary?

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Jury convicts sports agent, trainer in Cuban smuggling case

MIAMI (AP)—A Miami jury on Wednesday convicted a Florida sports agent and a baseball trainer on charges they smuggled Cuban baseball players to the U.S. in search of big profits from professional free agent contracts.

The verdict came after jurors heard about six weeks of testimony in the trial of Bartolo Hernandez and Julio Estrada, who were indicted on conspiracy and alien smuggling charges for an operation that began in 2009 and involved a number of high-profile Major League Baseball players.

The jury deliberated only about five hours before the verdict. Prosecutors said Hernandez faces between three and 15 years in prison and Estrada—convicted of more smuggling counts—faces between five and 35 years behind bars.

They also face forfeiture of more than $15.5 million, plus real estate, four Mercedes-Benz vehicles and contents of bank accounts.

AP

In this Feb. 1, 2017 file photo trainer Julio Estrada leaves federal court in Miami. Closing arguments are set for Tuesday, March 14, 2017, in the Miami trial of agent Bartolo Hernandez and Estrada accused of smuggling Cuban baseball players into the United States.

U.S. District Judge Kathleen Williams set sentencing for July 11 and will allow both men to remain free on bail. Defense attorneys promised there would be appeals.

Trial evidence showed an existing Cuban smuggling operation that brought people from the communist-run island to Mexico became the platform in 2009 for the much more lucrative trade in elite ballplayers. People involved in that operation testified it was ultimately overseen by Hernandez and Estrada.

The players would be whisked from Cuba to Mexico or Haiti in a speedboat, sign papers claiming residency in their new country and eventually be cleared to sign with MLB teams. Prosecutors showed jurors how many of those documents contained false information, such as made-up jobs for players, and some travel documents were forged.

"They're always doing things dishonestly," Assistant U.S. Attorney Michael "Pat" Sullivan told jurors in a closing argument. "This was a scam."

In one of the trial's memorable moments, Chicago White Sox star Jose Abreu testified that he ate a piece of his phony Haitian passport while flying to the U.S. in 2013 because he feared repercussions if he landed in Miami with a fake document. Abreu soon after signed a $68 million deal with Chicago.

TANHOLDINGS

From Page 44

ond quarter to set up the easy win. It had a 9-2 windup in the last two minutes and change of the pivotal period, turning a 5-point lead to a double-digit advantage at the break, 44-32. Andy Mortos scored 12 points in the crucial canto.

The burly forward added 6 more in the third and his other teammates also contributed on offense to increase their lead to 21, 65-44, entering the final canto. Westco never made headway in the fourth period to get the boot in the single-elimination playoffs as it absorbed its fifth straight loss in the tournament.

Mortos top-scored for Best Deal/RNV with his 26 points, as he muscled his way in for several point-blank shots and put-backs and also hit a couple of short jumpers. Ronald Rueda chipped in 19, 13 of them came in the first quarter off fastbreak layups and two triples.

Dan Illahi paced Westco with his 30 markers.

In the second game, TanHoldings was simply too much for Konstrak Builders.

The undefeated team built a double-digit lead right in the first quarter and pulled away in the ensuing periods to hammer the hapless Konstrak Builders.

As expected, Douglas Schmidt towed TanHoldings to the lopsided win after firing 27 points. Bart Demapan added 20, while Dindo Pablo, Adonis Macoto, and Jarett Matsutaro logged 17, 16, and 12 points, respectively. With Schmidt getting enough help from his teammates, TanHoldings hardly missed the presence of Lerio Pagarao, who served the first of his three-game suspension after figuring in a confrontation against Joeten's Sid Quan and later Kelvin Fitial in the regular season.

TanHoldings now awaits the winner of the CUC-D&Q/CTSI playoff game on Monday for the Elite 8 pairing, while Best Deal/RNV will face the victor of the Coca-Cola/Subway-Mobil/COAG tiff.

First Game

TanHoldings 125 – Schmidt 27, Demapan 20, Pablo 17, Macoto 16, Matsutaro 12, Esdrelon 8, Villamena 6, Nonato 4, Quizon 2.

Konstrak Builders 50 – Bernardo 32, Sabidal 8, Manalo 4, Alfonso 4.

Scoring by quarters: 26-15, 51-29, 83-38, 125-50.

Second Game

Best Deal/RNV 82 – Mortos 26, R. Rueda 19, Jumaquio 10, Alfonso 5, Barrios 5, Corong 4, Odicta 3, Baul 3, Cabalquinto 2, Cayanan 1.

Westco 58 – Illahi 30, Rejano 9, Alfonso 9, Cortez 4, Tolentino 3, Gutierrez 3.

Scoring by quarters: 22-16, 44-32, 65-44, 82-58.

MP

From Page 43

then got an own goal off Dai Podziewski's miscue in the 53rd, while De Leon earned his second goal in the 74th. Jeffrey Seo handed Matansa its final goal in the last minute of the 80-minute match.

The victory was Matansa's first, ending its three-game losing skid, while Paire is still on a slide, taking its fourth loss in as many assignments.

Meanwhile, in the boys U14 division, MP United got a free win against Kanoa FC after the latter showed up for the last game at the Koblerville Elementary School Field without its players' ID. League rules require all the players to present their Northern Mariana Islands Football Association-issued IDs before the game. The two teams went on to play in a scrimmage after Kanoa was forced to default the match.

With the win, MP United moved up to solo first place and improved its record to 4-1-0. Kano fell to a 1-1-3 slate for fifth spot in the six-team field.

In other results in the division, Shirley's and TanHoldings downed their respective opponents at the Koblerville Elementary School Ballfield.

Shirley's continued its strong showing this season as it bagged its third straight victory after outclassing Matansa, 5-3. Christian and Romel Mendoza logged two goals apiece in Shirley's latest triumph, while Devin Igisomar chipped in one. Shirley's kept the No. 2 spot in the team standings with its 3-0-2 mark.

Matansa, which drew a hat trick from Lolobeyong Benito, slid to fourth place with its 2-1-2 card.

TanHoldings is ahead of Matansa at third place after beating Paire, 8-1.

Seven different players teamed up in giving TanHoldings a lopsided victory against Paire. Anthony John Bergancia was one of them as he drilled the team's last two goals (64th and 66th minute). Ezekiel Canape, Taka Borja, Ryuto Yanai, Reginald Pascual, Taka Borja, and Oliver Fajardo were the other scorers for TanHoldings, which now has a 2-2-1 record.

Paire, which has yet to win this season after absorbing its fourth loss and having one draw, got its lone goal from Kaden Church.

IRONMAN

From Page 44

has became "a part of [my] life."

"I train everyday and I eat right. I believe eating right is very important."

Miyokawa mentioned that he joins two to three triathlons in Japan a year. Given that he finished the grueling race within the cutoff time, Miyokawa would be attending the Ironman World Championship in Chattanooga, Tennessee this September.

Amputee finishes 6th in age group

Miyokawa's countryman, Uda Hideki, meanwhile, left fellow triathletes and onlookers alike amazed after the amputee finished sixth in the men's 30-34 age group.

Hideki crossed the tape in a time of 6:32:04 while using only one arm. His swimming time was 42:09, while his bike split was 3:14:04 before completing the run in 2:30:36.

Competing against his more able-bodied peers, Hideki finished his first Ironman in the Top 50 at 46th place overall.

"I trained for this specific Ironman for two years. This is my first year joining the Ironman," he told Saipan Tribune. "It was so tiring and long. It was very hard."

Hideki said he regularly trains for short triathlons in Japan. "I especially concentrate my training on swimming," he said. "I am happy that I finished the triathlon, but I feel more relieved that it is over."

XTERRA

From Page 44

the podium."

Standing on the way of Allen getting the historic fifth XTERRA Saipan win and surpassing Olivier Marceau in the records books is Gardner, who surprised last year's field when he ruled the off-road triathlon event despite arriving on island just a few hours before the race.

"I came in earlier this time, knowing that I'll be in for a tougher competition. Being the defending champion obviously puts some pressure on me, but it also gives me confidence. However, I have to be careful because other competitors will be watching me, including Ben," said Gardner, who likes the developing rivalry between him and his fellow Australian.

"Ben will step forward and then I'll step forward, too and keep going. Hopefully, by the end of the race I am ahead," Gardner said.

Joining Gardner and Allen in the very competitive men's field are returnees Bradley Weiss of South Africa, Austria's Markus Benesch, the USA's Will Kelsay, Japan's Takahiro Ogasawara, Russia's Alexandr Dorovskikh, and the Philippines' Joe Miller.

"I love the slight modification in the bike leg. I like climbs so hopefully, I could get a good lead in the bike to have a good chance of winning the race," said Weiss, who will be competing here for the third time.

Benesch also favors the extra climb in the bike race and is looking to capitalize on the uphill trek to have a better showing this year and keep up with the strong field.

"It's going to be exciting with these many pros coming for the first XTERRA race of the year," he said.

Dorovskikh has been racing around the world, according to an interpreter, making him better prepared this year as he hopes to end his skid here.

Yuichi Hosoda, who represented Japan in the 2012 Olympics in London, does not know what to expect in this weekend's race and will be fighting for survival as he is aware of the reputation of the brutal course in XTERRA Saipan.

Dominik Wychera, a third placer in the XTERRA World (age group) in 2012, is hoping for cooperation from Mother Nature as newcomers like him are in the disadvantage as far as familiarity with the course is concerned.

"I tried the bike course three times and it is very challenging. Hopefully, it will not be slippery and the weather will get better," the Austrian said.

Sam Osborne of New Zealand is worried about the run trail part as he is used to "bouldering" in the snowy tournaments he has done around Europe in the past years.

"No two courses are similar, so you have to be very careful in your steps. I am hoping for a safe and good finish," said Osborne, who appeared in Oceania Cup, World Cup, World Championships, and Euro Championships.

Mieko vs Carina

While the men's pro division has an open field, the women's race will only be between former Saipan pro Mieko Carey and Austria's Carina Wasle.

Mieko will be gunning for her first XTERRA Saipan win in a decade, which will be her third crown.

"No pressure, but the race will be very hard, especially the bike course. I will be fighting for survival in this tough course and hopeful get the win," said Mieko.

"I always find it difficult to race when it's very hot, so probably if it rains, it will be a bit easier for me, but not so much rain please," said Wasle, who suffered one of the worst bike crushes in the history of XTERRA Saipan a couple of years ago.

CAROL

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Juniors Circuit behind the Junior Grand Slam (A). Grade 1 events offer 150 rankings points to singles champion, 100 to runner-up, 80 to the semifinalists, 60 to quarterfinalists, 30 to losers in the Round of 16, and 20 to losers in Round of 32.

Next up for the Commonwealth player is the ITF/CAT North African Circuit that will run on May 8 to 13. It is a Grade 3 tournament that offers ranking points as high as 60 (champion) and at least 10 (losers in Round of 32). For her final tournament in the North African country, Lee will be participating in the RUC Tennis Junior Open—a Grade 4 competition.

"These ITF Juniors tournaments are very good opportunities for me to earn more ranking points. I will do my best to win my singles matches and learn from higher-ranked players," said Lee, who is currently ranked No. 345 in the world—just four notches down from her best ranking.

Carol returns to India, to train in Morocco

NMI cagebelles to compete in March Madness

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Mary Kay Alferos, left, is one of the 12 players suiting up for the NMI All-Star Team who are competing in the 2017 March Madness Pacific-Wide Basketball Tournament at the Andersen Air Force Base's Coral Reef Fitness Center in Guam.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The NMI All-Star Team left for Guam early yesterday morning to play in the women's division of the 2017 March Madness Pacific-Wide Basketball Tournament that will kick off today at the Andersen Air Force Base's Coral Reef Fitness Center.

The select team is made up of Irish Pagarao, Jeralyn Castillo, Tawnie Manibusan, Jasmine Phan, Mary Kay Alferos, Chenille Espinosa, Chevy Kate Alipio, Madeleine Alegre, Michelle Kautz, Diane Pablo, Cassandra Camacho, and Ira Palero. They will be coached by Catherine Attao-Toves.

"The team was invited to join the tournament late in February so we have a short time of preparation and players were picked from the teams that saw action in the TanHoldings Christmas basketball tournament," Attao-Toves said.

The squad practiced twice a week under Attao-Toves' watch, while they also had a once-a-week session with Northern Mariana Islands Basketball Federation coach and official and former Saipan Southern High School standout Preston Basa.

"The talent is definitely there so we just had to work on the team chemistry more since the players came from different teams," said Attao-Toves, who brought in to the squad a few of her players from Mt. Carmel School.

The NMI All-Stars are in Pool A of the women's division competition, joining the Lady Bombers of Andersen and Guam's Lady Fuetsa. Pool B has Lady Seahawks, Lady Mustangs, Lady Tooth Fairies, and Lady Stars. The Top 2 teams in each pool will advance to the playoff round.

Attao-Toves' wards were scheduled to debut against the Lady Bombers yesterday at 9pm, while they will face Lady Fuetsa today at 6pm.

"We have no idea how our opponents play so we just have to make adjustments as the game progresses and work on the offensive and defensive strategies that we practiced on Saipan. This team will work together and do their best to represent the CNMI well," said Attao-Toves.

This is the first time that a women's squad from the Commonwealth is playing in the annual tournament. The Hoopaholics and Rollers previously competed in the men's division of Guam's version of the NCAA's March Madness.

This year's men's division contest has eight teams. Pool A has Andersen AFC, Kunsan AB of Korea, PAWS 2 Heaven, and Team X-Clusive. Osan Air Base of Korea leads Pool B and will be up against Guam's Mac Tech Nerds, Tamuning Typhoons, and University of Guam.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI's Carol Lee is heading to India this weekend, while she will be going to Morocco next month as she seeks for more milestones in her blossoming junior tennis career.

Lee will return to New Delhi to suit up for the Pacific Oceania Team in the 2017 Junior Fed Cup Asia Oceania Qualifying Zone that will start next week at the R.K Khanna Tennis Stadium. Lee's team is one of the 16 squads that will vie for the four slots (semifinalists in the zone) to the 2017 Junior Fed Cup World Group Finals that will be played in Budapest, Hungary in September.

Lee and her teammates Naia Guitton of Tahiti and Eleanor Schuster of Samoa are a long shot for the qualifying berths in the World Group Finals, but the Commonwealth bet will try her best to help Pacific Oceania finish in the Top 10.

"My goal in the Fed Cup is to place in the Top 10 because I don't want to go through the pre-qualifying tournament again," said Lee, who is now in Fiji at the ITF-OTF Regional Training Facility.

Last year, when she debuted for Pacific Oceania, Lee, Guitton and Fiji's Vienna Kumar were ranked No. 15 out of the 16 teams that joined the zone qualifier, which was also held in India. After failing to make the grade in the 2016 competition, Lee and company were forced to play in the pre-qualifying contest, which took place last month in New Delhi with Pacific Oceania beating Sri Lanka in the finals.

Once she completes her tour of duty with Pacific Oceania in the Fed Cup, Lee will return to Fiji to continue training before she heads to Morocco late next month.

She will also undergo rigorous training sessions in Morocco, where the only other ITF training facility is located. She will also compete in three high-level ITF Juniors tournament there.

"I will miss the Guam and the CNMI ITF Juniors competitions this year and instead I will go to Morocco to challenge higher-ranked players," the 15-year-old said.

In Morocco, Lee will first see action in the Mediterranée Avenir (May 1 to 6), a Grade 1 event and the second-highest level tournament in the ITF

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Carol Lee, seen here competing in last year's ITF Juniors tournament on Saipan, will be returning to India next week to represent Pacific Oceania in the 2017 Junior Fed Cup Asia Oceania Qualifying Zone.

MP United leads in two divisions

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

MP United Football Club is on top of the team standings in both the boys U14 and U17 divisions of the 2017 NMIFA Youth Spring League.

In the U17 division, MP United blanked TanHoldings, 5-0, last Saturday at the Hopwood Junior High School Field to earn a field-best 4-0-0 win-draw-loss record. TanHoldings dropped to second place as it absorbed its first defeat in four games.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

MP United Football Club's Rintaro Miyawaki, third left, fights for the ball against a Kanoa FC defender while their teammates look on during a scrimmage in the boys U14 division of the NMIFA youth league last Saturday at the Koblerville Elementary School Ballfield.

Sunjoon Tenorio and James Kim knocked in two goals apiece to help MP United keep its perfect record, while Joshua Abragan contributed one. Kim put MP United on the board with his shot in the 20th minute. That was the only goal of MP United in the first half, while Tenorio opened the second with his conversation in the 43rd minute. Abragan scored next in the 57th minute, while Kim broke his long silence in the 63rd before Tenorio closed out for the division leader in the 74th.

In the other boys U17 division match, Matansa also shut down Paire, 4-0.

Joshua De Leon started things out for Matansa when he cashed in on a penalty kick in the 29th minute. Matansa

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Trail Blazers beat Spurs to spoil Aldridge's comeback

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Busted: Teams at top of brackets find themselves in trouble

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
The pro triahletes competing in this weekend's 2017 XTERRA Saipan Championship pose for a photo at the grounds of Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan yesterday after a press conference.

Wide-open race in XTERRA Saipan

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The choices are many and there is no sure thing in the men's pro field of this year's 2017 XTERRA Saipan.

You have the four-time champion Ben Allen, defending champion Brodie Gardner, Japanese Olympian Yuichi Hosoda, several hungry returnees, and promising first-timers. Add the heavy shower forecast for this Saturday's race and an extra steep and long climb in the bike race to the equation and you will have a tough time guessing who is going to cross the finish line first.

"It will be an interesting race with several pros joining this year's XTERRA Saipan. It will be a test of character as majority of us will be doing our first race of the season," said Allen, who cut his honeymoon short with wife Jacqui in his bid to regain the men's pro title that he missed last year after deciding to skip the Saipan leg of the Asia Pacific Tour.

"Jacqui is pissed," Allen said with a laugh. "However, she understands that I love this race and I have to be here so she let me go. Hopefully, I get to repay her kindness by making it to

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70-year-old qualifies for Worlds; amputee impressive in 1st Ironman

MACKENZIE PEREZ
Uda Hideki of Japan continues in the bike leg after making his turn about at the Bird Island Lookout during Saturday's Ironman 70.3 Saipan.

ERWIN ENCINARES
Kazu Miyokawa, left, along with friend and triathlon veteran Imai Masaki pose with their Ironman 70.3 Saipan tokens during the awards ceremony held last Saturday at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

You can say that Kazu Miyokawa won his age group by default, as the 70-year-old Japanese triathlete punched his ticket to the Ironman World Championship 2017 by competing unopposed in the super senior division of last Saturday's inaugural Ironman 70.3 Saipan.

The Japanese veteran triathlete, who has been in the Ironman scene for the past 30 years, finished with a time of 7:31:14. Miyokawa finished the 1.9-kilometer swim in 49:44, the 90K bike leg in 3:38:09, and the 21.2K run leg in 2:55:13.

"I've been training everyday for about 30 years straight," Miyokawa told *Saipan Tribune*. Miyokawa said he is in great shape and he owes it all to his routine, which he said basically

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TanHoldings, Best Deal/RNV coast past foes

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Best Deal/RNV Construction's Andy Mortos, right, pulls up for a shot against Westco's Mark Pacholco during their playoff game in the JEM/Mobil caging last Wednesday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

TanHoldings and Best Deal/RNV Construction eased their way to the Elite 8 of the JEM Company Ltd./Mobil Customer Appreciation Basketball League after routing separate opponents last Wednesday night at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

TanHoldings pummeled Konstrak Builders in the first game to gain the third quarterfinal berth, while Best Deal/RNV took the fourth slot following an 82-58 demolition of Westco in the nightcap. Top-ranked TanHoldings and No. 6 Best Deal/RNV joined early qualifiers Mariana Resort and McDonald's in the Elite 8.

Best Deal/RNV banked on a strong finish in the sec-

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